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[No. 15 of 1909.]

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 10th April 1909.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

[As it stood on the 1st January 1909.]

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, rank and age of Editor.	Circulation.
BENGALI.					
1	"Anusilan"	Calcutta	Weekly		
2	"Bangabandhu"	Ditto	Do.		
3	"Bangabhumu"	Ditto	Do.		
4	"Bangaratna"	Banaghat	Do.		
5	"Bangavasi"	Calcutta	Do.		1,400
6	"Bankura Darpan"	Bankura	Do.		
7	"Basumati"	Calcutta	Do.		9,000
8	"Bharat Chitra"	Ditto	Do.		1,155
9	"Birbhum Hitaishi"	Suri	Do.		12,000
10	"Birbhum Varta"	Do.	Do.		
11	"Burdwan Sanjivani"	Burdwan	Do.		400
12	"Chinsura Vartavaha"	Chinsura	Do.		1,000
13	"Daily Hitavadi"	Calcutta	Daily		300-500
14	"Dainik Chandrika"	Ditto	Do.		1,000
15	"Dharma-o-Karma"	Ditto	Do.		2,000
16	"Education Gazette"	Chinsura	Monthly		200
17	"Ekata"	Calcutta	Weekly		
18	"Hitavadi"	Ditto	Do.		2,000
19	"Hindusthan"	Ditto	Do.		
20	"Howrah Hitaishi"	Howrah	Do.		20,000
21	"Jagran"	Bagerhat	Do.		1,000
22	"Jasohar"	Jessore	Do.		500
23	"Kalyani"	Magura	Do.		
24	"Khulnavasi"	Khulna	Do.		1,500
25	"Manbhum"	Purulia	Do.		
26	"Matribhumi"	Chandernagore	Do.		200
27	"Mihir-o-Sudhakar"	Calcutta	Do.		500
28	"Murshidabad Hitaishi"	Saidabad	Do.		
29	"Nadia"	Krishnagar	Do.		1,000
30	"Navajivani-o-Swadeshi Christian."	Calcutta	Do.		800
31	"Nayak"	Ditto	Tri-Weekly		250
32	"Nihar"	Contai	Daily and Weekly.	Bi-	
33	"Nivadan"	Calcutta	Weekly		
34	"Pallivarta"	Bongong	Do.		400
35	"Pallivasi"	Kalna	Do.		500
36	"Prachar"	Calcutta	Do.		
37	"Prasun"	Katwa	Monthly		600
38	"Pratihar"	Berhampore	Weekly		
39	"Prava"	Calcutta	Do.		500
40	"Prabhat"	Ditto	Do.		600
41	"Purulia Darpan"	Purulia	Do.		
42	"Ratnakar"	Asansol	Do.		
43	"Samsaj Darpan"	Salkia	Do.		200
44	"Samay"	Calcutta	Do.		300
45	"Samailani"	Serampore	Do.		
46	"Samvad Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	Do.		800
47	"Sandhya"	Calcutta	Daily		
48	"Sanjivani"	Ditto	Do.		
49	"Sevika"	Diamond Harbour	Weekly		7,000
50	"Soltan"	Calcutta	Monthly		3,500
51	"Sonar Bharat"	Howrah	Weekly		
52	"Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda-Basar Patrika."	Calcutta	Do.		500
53	"Swadesh"	Ditto	Do.		
54	"Tamilika"	Tamluk	Do.		2,000
55	"Twenty-four Parganas Vartavaha."	Bhawanipur	Do.		1,000
HINDI.					
56	"Bharat Mitra"	Calcutta	Weekly		
57	"Bihar Bandhu"	Bankipore	Do.		
58	"Bihar Gazette"	Ditto	Do.		3,200
59	"Bir Bharat"	Calcutta	Do.		
60	"Ghar Bandhu"	Ranchi	Do.		
61	"Gyanodaya"	Calcutta	Fortnightly		
62	"Jain Gajet"	Arrah	Monthly		
63	"Jain Pataka"	Calcutta	Weekly		
64	"Hindi Bangavasi"	Litto	Monthly		
65	"Hitavarta"	Ditto	Weekly		444
66	"Lakshmi Upadesh Labri"	Gaya	Do.		
67	"Marwari"	Calcutta	Monthly		3,000
68	"Marwari Bandhu"	Ditto	Do.		4,000
69	"Narsingha"	Ditto	Weekly		
70	"Siksha"	Bankipore	Monthly		
			Weekly		250

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

[As it stood on the 1st January 1900.]

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Frequency.	Name, rank and age of Editor.	Circulation.
PERSIAN.					
71	"Roznama-i-Mu k a d d a s - Hablul Mateen"	Calcutta ...	Weekly	.....	1,000
URDU.					
72	"A syini-i-chatar Gupt"	Bankipore	Do.	.....	.....
73	"Al Panch"	Ditto ...	Do.	.....	200
74	"Dar-ul Sultanat"	Calcutta ...	Do.	.....	.....
75	"Khawah Mokhab Panch"	Gaya ...	Do.	.....	.....
URIYA.					
76	"Garjatbasini"	Talcher ...	Do.	.....	.....
77	"Manorama"	Baripada ...	Do.	.....	.....
78	"Nilachal Samachar"	Puri ...	Do.	.....	.....
79	"Sambalpur Hitaisini"	Bamra ...	Do.	.....	.....
80	"Samvad Vahika"	Balsore ...	Do.	.....	.....
81	"Uriya and Navasamvad"	Cuttack ...	Do.	.....	400
82	"Utkal Darpan"	Sambalpur	Do.	.....	400
83	"Utkal Dipika"	Cuttack ...	Do.	.....	.....
84	"Utkal Sakti"	Calcutta ...	Do.	.....	648
85	"Utkal Varta"	Ditto ...	Do.	.....	.....

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Namai Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 29th March expresses its profound gratification at the occupation by the Constitutionalists of Southern Persia, specially the ports like Bushire, etc., which command towns of considerable importance such as Shiraz, Isfahan and Khoran. The income from import duties, says the paper, has for the last six months been a source of great pecuniary help to the Royalists, who being thus deprived of it will no longer be able to stand against the onset of the Nationalists. The Royalists have also been cut off from the help which they used to receive from the foreign Banks, and must therefore despair of receiving any loan from the foreigners.

NAMAI MUQADDAS
HABUL MATIN.
Mar. 29th, 1909.

2. Referring to the Anglo-Russian note presented to the Shah, protesting against the barbarity of Rahim Khan in the vicinity of Tabriz, and wishing him to pass immediate orders for the cessation of such excesses, the *Namai Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 29th March has the following:—

NAMAI MUQADDAS
HABUL MATIN.
Mar. 29th, 1909.

The protest has inflicted a rebuff on the treacherous aims of the Persian Courtiers who have been trying to provoke the Anglo-Russian interference by committing excesses on the frontier and on the Russian subjects. It has given the Courtiers clearly to understand first that the policy adopted by the Monarchical Government is quite contrary to the principles of a civilised nation, and every Power which has a smack of civilisation will not give its support to it, and secondly that it is indicative of the oppression to which the nation is subject rather than holding it to blame; and even if there be any occasion for the encroachment of the foreigners, be against the Royalists in support of the Constitutionalists.

Some time ago Sattor Khan had protested against the excesses of the Royalist forces, which retreating before the superior national strength, directed their attack against innocent, neutral and unarmed persons, and published an appeal to all the civilised Powers, inviting their attention to the cruel policy of the Shah. The Anglo-Russian protest therefore appears to have been the outcome of Sattor Khan's appeal.

3. Referring to Sir Edward Grey's speech in the Commons, dwelling on Russia's abstention from intervention in Persia in spite of losses and disturbances, and stating that although "the Shah's Government was one of the worst possible, they could not presume to impose a constitution, but they could only impress on the Shah the need for pacifying the country if he expected their assistance and countenance," the *Namai Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 29th March has the following:—

NAMAI MUQADDAS
HABUL MATIN.
Mar. 29th, 1909.

The above expression is the final result of the correspondence between the English and the Russians relating to the affairs in Persia for the last ten months. All the statesmen awaited with anxiety the decision which has at last been one of non-intervention, forcing Russia to agree to it, and disappointing the treacherous Courtiers of Persia in their hopes. The Persians are now left to their own resources in the matter of settlement of their present dispute. They must know that there is none in favour of their present Monarchical rule in Persia, for even the uncivilised nations have expressed their abhorrence of the atrocities of the Government. The Anglo-Russian protest against the barbarities of Rahim Khan is a fresh example of hatred incurred by the rebellious country-selling Courtiers of the Shah. The guarded words uttered by the wise statesman Sir Edward Grey, viz., that "the Shah's Government is one of the worst possible" have hinted at the fact that it is the bounden duty of the civilised nations to demolish the savage workshop and disgraceful policy (of the Shah) which they (the English) regret they cannot interfere with owing to their adoption of the policy of non-intervention. It appears as if Sir Edward Grey has convinced the Persians of his sympathy with them, and exhorted them to make bold to carry out the reforms suited to the present state of the country.

The paper then addresses the Persians at length, advising them to avail themselves of the golden opportunity which has now presented itself, and cut off the unholy genealogical tree of the Monarchy for which only one manly move is sufficient.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

NAYAK,
Mar. 31st, 1909.

4. A friend of ours, writes the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 31st March, has taken us to task for not expressing our joy at the acquittal of Pandit Mokshada Charan Samadhyayi, who was one of the accused in the Bighati Dacoity case. But how can we be jubilant at his acquittal? Samadhyayi is a man learned in the Vedas, and a true Hindu. We do not know what sin he had committed which brought on him all this misery. Now if the police can put to trouble Brahmins like Samadhyayi and Panchanan Tarkaratna, men who are eminent members of the Hindu society, we must say that the independent existence of our society is gone altogether. But can anybody dare to put an English Missionary to trouble in this way? It is thoughts like this which are weighing us down, and so we cannot feel any joy at Samadhyayi's acquittal.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Mar. 2nd, 1909.

5. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 22d April writes:—
We have not the power adequately to convey an impression of the acute anguish which is being caused to the hearts of the Hindus as a community by the arrest, through the grace of worthy policemen, of inoffensive orthodox Brahmins leading a holy life. Pandit Panchanan Tarkaratna's arrest as a political conspirator threw the Hindu community into anguished impatience. The entire body of the people of the country prayed for his release, whole-heartedly. Ere yet his troubles are quite ended, the pious Pandit Mokshada Charan Samadhyayi's arrest in connection with the Bighati case threw the population of the country into a fresh paroxysm of keen anxiety and acute anguish. His subsequent acquittal by the High Court has filled us with heartfelt joy, and we pray that the life of renunciation and piety he has chosen may be crowned with all success by the God of our common country.

HINDUSTHAN,
Apr. 3rd, 1909.

6. The *Hindusthan* [Calcutta] of the third April, reserving its comments on the results of the Bighati case as a whole, takes occasion to thank the Judges for acquitting Pandit Mokshada Charan Samadhyayi, and thereby affording evidence of a sense of justice. In spite of the strenuous efforts of the police to get the Pandit implicated in this case, the public never believed that a man of his wisdom and knowledge of the *Shastras* could have been implicated in such a serious case. It behoves Government now to punish the men through whose fault the Pandit was made to undergo all this trouble and harassment unjustly.

NAYAK,
Mar. 31st, 1909.

7. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 31st March writes, that the Magistrate of Narayanganj, Dacca, and other places have forbidden Volunteers from helping pilgrims at the coming fair at Nangal-Bandh [Dacca].

Volunteers at the Nangal-Bandh Fair.

Orders have been issued that only those persons who may be selected by a Magistrate shall be allowed to work as Volunteers. So the authorities do not like that the people should engage themselves in any work of mutual help, unless they work under the guidance of the Government. In other words the people of this country are not to be allowed to do any pious work and thereby extend their power and influence. Well, if this be really what the authorities mean, we must say that they are guided by a very narrow-minded policy.

SANJIVANI,
Apr. 1st, 1909.

8. Referring to the notice issued by the Magistrate of Dacca forbidding Samiti Volunteers from helping pilgrims in the ensuing Nangalbandh Fair unless such Volunteers work under the guidance of the officials who are in charge of the Fair, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 1st April says that, considering

Samiti Volunteers and the Nangalbandh Fair.

the yeoman's service which the Volunteers have always rendered to pilgrims, the Magistrate's order will do a great injury to them (the pilgrims). The paper draws the attention of the Government to the matter.

9. Referring to the recent police raid directed against "Anna Press" and "Protodh Press" in Satara (Bombay), the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 3rd April remarks, that a small town like Satara has been fully tasting the bitter fruit of the indignation of Government.

BHARAT MITRA,
Apl. 3rd, 1909.

10. Referring to the recent police searches in Bombay Presidency, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 5th April remarks:—

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Apl. 5th, 1909.

Far-sighted persons say that it is hard to carry suspicion so far.

BHARAT MITRA,
Apl. 3rd, 1909.

11. In noticing the complaint published in newspapers stating that the Arya Smajists at Kaikhal, Karnal, Punjab, are now being closely shadowed by the detectives, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 3rd April asks why the police are keeping such a keen watch over this community.

Detectives shadowing the Arya Smajists at Kaikhal.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

12. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 13th March writes that as the Bighati case is now disposed of and the Bajitpur case dropped, it is to be hoped that the Special Tribunal will be dissolved, and the ordinary procedure for the trial of cases of this nature reverted to.

NAYAK,
Mar. 30th, 1909.

13. Referring to the acquittal on appeal of one Lal Mohan Mukerji who was charged with having outraged the statue of the late Queen at Benares, the *Tirhut Samachar* [Muzaffarpur] of the 1st April remarks: "Who is now to be responsible for putting an innocent gentleman to trouble by concocting a case against him?"

TIRHUT SAMACHAR,
Apl. 1st, 1909.

14. After giving an account of the incidents in the Bighati Dacoity case, the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April goes on thus:—

NAYAK,
Apl. 2nd, 1909.

There is something wrong at the very foundation of the case. To constitute "dacoity," there must be an application of force or of threats. All the witnesses for the prosecution agree in stating that nobody thought these men to be dacoits until the durwan of the house returned and reported to Kisor Mohan what he had seen. If these men made use of threats as policemen, they cannot be said to have been dacoits. The charge of dacoity against these men therefore should have failed. Admitting that they bound Kishori Mohan up with ropes and broke a chest open with a hatchet, it is arguable that these acts were mere part of the rôle of deception they were playing. At the worst therefore these men could be charged with cheating, and not with dacoity.

Kisor Mohan went to Singur Thana on the night of the occurrence, and got his first information report taken down by the local daroga at 4 A.M. The village chaukidar also accompanied Kisor to the thana along with a chaukidar belonging to another village. Kisor stated in the thana that there had been six men in his house to commit a dacoity. Everybody knows that when giving the first information at the thana, the general tendency on the part of a complainant is invariably to state the number of defendants in excess, never in defect. Even when the names of the defendants are not known, their number is given in excess, or accurately, but never in defect. Anyhow Kisor stated on this occasion that only 6 men came to his house. Although he may not have any knowledge of his own on this subject, he must surely have heard from the durwan how many men the latter had seen in company on the road. Kisor, Khetra, Binode, Naren, the Durwan and the chaukidar must all have talked together on this subject before proceeding to the thana. A list of the ornaments and cash made away with was taken ready prepared from home, so it is incredible that the number of dacoits was also not ascertained. When the search of the house was going on, both the chaukidar and Naren passed

from out of the house into its inside. Both of them must surely have ascertained how many were inside and how many outside. This chaukidar accompanied Kisori to the thana, and was present when the latter gave in his first information. So the number of dacoits is ascertained beyond a doubt. Furthermore, a man cannot be prosecuted unless a plaintiff charges him with some offence. Of course, the Crown can prosecute of its own motion, but that occurs only in the case of certain offences.

The following day, the Daroga came to Kisori's house to make an inquiry and took down an account of all the incidents. This account was not filed either in the Lower Court or in the High Court. It has not yet been ascertained that the number of dacoits exceeded six. Tejen Mitter's house was searched the very same day, but no evidence could be secured. Tejen was a friend of the Daroga and he was not arrested. His cousin Dhiren Ghosh was indeed arrested the following day at Kartik Dutt's house at Telinipara, but he was later on let off for want of evidence against him.

Panna Chatterji's confession discloses that the six accused in the present case were in the gang of dacoits and there were three others unknown, and there were besides himself and one Kesab De. Thus Kisori's statement gives the number of dacoits as 6, and Panna's as 11. Who is to be credited? Law and justice demand that Kisori the plaintiff is to be relied on. It is not just to believe that Panna spoke the truth, seeing that he was surrounded by the police on all sides, and was eager to secure his own freedom. Of the total number of 6 dacoits, leaving the three unknown men out, 3 only remain. Kesab is an absconder—this makes 4. Panna himself was admitted by one of the gang. There is only one therefore to be accounted for. If however there is only one dacoit whose identify was uncertain, why should four men go to jail?

We shall later on show the manner in which the identification has been carried out. For the present we shall conclude simply by pointing out the following:—

Kartik Dutt was identified by Kisori as one of the dacoits. At the High Court, in reply to Mr. Sinha, Kisori said:—"There was a trunk in the Puja *dalan*. They took the key from my brother, opened it and took away the cash; there was another box belonging to our naib. We had not the key with us, and some one of the party forced it open with an axe."

In reply to Mr. Sinha—As regards Kartik, I saw him force open the naib's box in the Thakur *dalan*.

Cross-examined.—But when they used the axe, did anybody protest? Ans:—No. I did not see them use the axe. The others did not protest.

In reply to a question by Harington, J.—"When did you recognise Kartik first? Ans.—When he was breaking open the Naib's box; there were 5 or 6 lamps burning.

There has been no evidence adduced in the case to show that any other box was broken open or forced open, save the Naib's box.

This little is enough to show how finely the balance of justice is being held.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Apl. 5th, 1909.

15. A correspondent to the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 5th April suggests that a house should be built in the compound of every District Court for the accommodation of jurors, who have often to come a long way from the mufassal and are greatly inconvenienced for a place to put up in during their stay at the district town whenever they have to attend Sessions trials.

Housing jurors in District Courts.

(d)—Education.

ALPANCH,
Apl. 2nd, 1909.

16. Referring to the measure which is being taken by Government for the progress of female education in Patna, the *Alpanch* [Bankipore] of the 2nd April expresses its inability to find any reason why Government should spend a heavy sum of money on the education of girls. Is this education of a few girls at such an enormous expense, asks the paper, likely to remove the present poverty and sufferings of the poor due to successive famines? Considering

Female education of Bihar.

how the Hindus and Muslims are fettered by old customs and usages, we make bold, continues the paper, to express our belief that Government has attempted something that looks like an impossible task. Even if the efforts of Government are crowned with success, the result after all is not likely to be worth the heavy expense incurred on them. Would it be amiss on our part to advise the Government to spend the same amount in bringing about some sure and definite result which may remove the poverty and misery of the inhabitants of Bihar. Want of food has forced many half-educated persons to resort to crime and disturb the public peace. The present poverty in Bihar urgently demands development of commerce and industry in the Province. Under these circumstances it is the prime duty of Government to take up the question of the present poverty of the Biharis, and adopt necessary measures that would deliver them from it at a little cost and within a short time. We would call that man our great reformer and a true patriot and well-wisher of the country who would dispel the dark clouds of poverty rolling over Bihar.

17. The *Soltan* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April writes that the Muslims have not yet as a community quite realised how

The new University Regulations.

seriously prejudicial to them. Lord Curzon's Universities Commission has been. Moulvi Saiyed

Husain Bilgrami, the Muslim member of this Commission, positively supported Lord Curzon, while his co-religionists generally remained passive, leaving the Hindus to bear the whole brunt of getting up an opposition to its recommendations. It is only lately that the pernicious effects of these recommendations have fully come out. Free colleges and second grade colleges have been abolished, the courses of study have been decidedly stiffened, and minimum requirements laid down as to accommodation, surroundings, etc., which have forced many colleges to close. What more steps in the same direction will be taken the future alone can tell.

Coming now to details, in the Matriculation examination, Muslims had formerly to take up Persian as their second language. Owing to a want of English and Bengali-knowing Muslims, the training imparted in Persian composition is most defective, and hence quite a large number of Muslim examinees used to get plucked. To add to their troubles, Arabic has now been added to Persian, so that Muslims have now more books to read than Hindu students taking up Sanskrit. The ultimate effect of forcing Muslims to read too many languages, will probably be to encourage them to take up Sanskrit. Let the University authorities abolish Persian which is not the national or sacred language of Muslims from the course, leaving only Arabic. And in Arabic too the number of books to study should be fewer than now.

18. A correspondent of the *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April

Questions on Persian at the last Entrance Examination.

complains that the questions on Persian at the last Entrance examination were unusually difficult. He therefore suggests that the answer papers

of the candidates should be examined leniently by the examiners, as otherwise most of them will fail in Persian.

19. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 31st March calls for some

The last Intermediate Examination.

punishment for those who are responsible for the mistakes which occurred in the paper on Mathematics at the last Intermediate examination, necessitating a re-examination on that subject.

20. Referring to the notice issued by the Registrar of the Calcutta

The re-examination of the Intermediate candidates in Mathematics.

University, that the Intermediate candidates will be re-examined in Mathematics, as there were serious misprints in one of the question papers, the *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 1st April writes:—

The reckless conduct and *sulum* of the University authorities indeed passes all description. Do not such incidents reflect disgrace on the University?

21. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 1st April takes the authorities of the Calcutta University to task for the mistakes which occurred in the 1st Mathematics paper in the recent Intermediate Examination. The

Mistakes in a question paper of the Intermediate Examination.

SOLTAN,
Apl. 2nd, 1909.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
Apl. 2nd, 1909.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
Mar. 31st, 1909.

JASOHAR,
Apl. 1st, 1909.

SANJIVANI,
Apl. 1st, 1909.

simple fact that the candidates will be re-examined in this paper, does not seem to the *Sanjivani* to fully make up for the injury which this incident has inflicted on them, for many of them have gone home and may or may not be able to attend the examination again. Besides, in the present state of the public health in Calcutta, it is highly risky for mufassal boys to come here. Of course in the case of candidates who may fail to attend the new examination, marks will be awarded according to the way in which they have answered the questions in the original examination. Since it is the bungling made by the University authorities, which is putting the boys to so much trouble and inconvenience, the paper hopes that some consideration will be shown to them while awarding marks. And this is the way, says the *Sanjivani*, in which Lord Curzon's reformed University is doing its work.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BASAR PATRIKA,
Apl. 1st, 1900.

22. The *Sri Sri Vishnupriya-o-Ananda Basar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 1st April takes the Hon'ble Dr. Mukerjee to task for the mistakes which occurred in the morning paper in Mathematics in the last Intermediate Examination in Arts, as the result of which candidates will have to undergo the trouble of another examination. There was a serious mistake in the 1st paper in English in the Entrance Examination, and for this it is the gentleman who set the paper who is to blame. Considering that Dr. Mukerjee is the autocrat of the University, says the paper, he ought to see that the examinees are not put to any inconvenience.

The last Intermediate examination in Arts.

PRATIKAR,
Apl. 2nd, 1900.

23. The *Pratihar* [Berhampore] of the 2nd April says that the lapses by the University authorities are as patent now as they were formerly. The serious mistakes in the question papers set at the last examinations prove this. The text-book on Sanskrit Grammar and the Administration of India for the Matriculation Examination in 1910 have not yet been published by the University authorities, although they undertook to publish these books. Such neglect on the part of the authorities cannot be too strongly condemned.

Alleged irregularities at the University examinations.

Again, at the Cooch Behar centre, the question paper on Grammar and Composition for the last Entrance Examination were not sent at all. This mistake was discovered too late, and the candidates could not appear on that subject. The authorities are going to hold a re-examination of the Intermediate candidates in Mathematics, but the blunders are too many to be rectified in this manner.

HOWRAH HITAIKHI,
Apl. 3rd, 1900.

24. Referring to the projected re-examination of Intermediate candidates in the Mathematics paper, the *Howrah Hitaihi* [Howrah] of the 3rd April writes:—

The recent Intermediate Examination.

Though in one sense the University may be said to be doing justice to the candidates in holding the examination again, looking at it from another point of view the projected re-examination cannot at all be reconciled to reason. The large number of mistakes which there were in the question paper on Mathematics have put the examinees to a good deal of trouble and inconvenience, and now a greater amount of trouble and inconvenience awaits them, for they will have to prolong their stay in Calcutta at a time like the present when small-pox and plague are raging in the town and when the University ought to have postponed the examinations. And all this trouble and annoyance which the candidates will have to put up with is due to the foolish carelessness of others. Then, again, some of the examinees may fall ill and fail to appear at the new examination, and we ask the personages who rule the destinies of the University what they intend doing in such a case. The Vice-Chancellor has fathered the guilt on the printer of the question paper, but we fail to see the justification of holding the poor printer alone to blame for this bungling. What about the worthy individual who set the questions, and the gentlemen who examined the proofs? We hope the learned Syndics will enlighten us on this point. We ask, did not the authorities of the University have the time to look through and correct the proofs of the question-paper, and thus save the examinees a good deal of unnecessary trouble? Such mistakes have of late been taking place every year; and still the University authorities seem not to care to mend their ways.

25. Referring to the serious misprint in a Mathematical question paper set at the last Intermediate Examination, and to the notice issued for holding a fresh examination of the candidates on the 8th April next, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 3rd April, while admitting that this admission of error on the part of the University authorities is a novel departure from the old practice, asks who is responsible for this ridiculous job. Certainly not the examinees. But all the same, they are going to be subjected to a re-examination for the unpardonable blunder of the authorities. Is it just?

The Mathematical question-paper at the last Intermediate Examination.

BASUMATI,
Apl. 3rd, 1909.

26. Referring to the serious mistakes in the question-papers in Mathematics set at the last Intermediate Examination which led the University to order a re-examination in that subject, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 3rd April wishes to know if any arrangement is going to be made to commemorate this high-minded examiner whose carefulness has obliged the candidates to sacrifice themselves.

Re-examination in Mathematics of the candidates at the last Intermediate Examination.

BHARAT MITRA,
Apl. 3rd, 1909.

27. The *Hindusthan* [Calcutta] of the 3rd April writes:—

The recent University examinations.

The University authorities make a display of their wisdom every year at the time the examinations are held. But the display they have made this year is probably unparalleled. The mistakes which have occurred this year in the Matriculation and Intermediate Examinations suggest that no proofs were corrected at all of the question-papers. Further fresh trouble has arisen this year at certain mufassil centres of examination owing to the rule that the packets of question-papers may be opened by the officer in charge of the examination only immediately before the examination commences. When the slightest mistake on the part of the students is not condoned, why should their examiners be treated differently? We hope the authorities will be more careful in the future and so oblige everybody.

HINDUSTHAN,
Apl. 3rd, 1909.

28. A complaint is published in the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 3rd April that only one question on Indian Geology bearing 10 marks was set in the question-paper on Geology at the last B. Sc. Examination.

Alleged irregularities in settling questions at the B. Sc. Examination.

In the afternoon, paper on that subject, again only one question bearing 10 marks was set on Petrology. But in former years 50 marks were assigned to each—Indian Geology and Petrology. This is a grave irregularity of which the University authorities should take notice.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Apl. 3rd, 1909.

29. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 1st April suggests that village *pathsalas* should be closed on the *hât* day, in order to enable boys to attend the *hât* and help their fathers in selling their produce. In this way boys can learn to take an interest in the profession of their fathers. The paper also thinks that *pathsalas* ought to remain closed during harvest time, as is the custom in England.

Closing *pathsalas* on the *hât* day and during harvest time.

SANJIVANI,
Apl. 1st, 1909.

(c)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

30. In narrating how Babu Rajendra Lall Dutt, a Municipal employé, while lately about to alight from a tram-car, was thrown down, because he had to let go his hold of the handle of the car which had suddenly got electrified, and how the Babu subsequently died as the result of this accident, the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 1st April asks, is there no means of preventing such accidents which are so frequently heard of? The conductors and drivers do not stop the cars at the fixed points; they only slow down the speed. This is one of the causes of these accidents, and should be capable of remedy certainly.

A Tramway complaint.

31. The *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 1st April is greatly concerned to find that the Bhairab river has dried up in several places. The paper asks the Government to take immediate steps to restore the flow of the river and thus save the lives of the thousands of people who live on its banks.

The Bhairab river (in Jessore).

NAYAK,
Apl. 1st, 1909.

JASOHAR,
Apl. 1st, 1909.

STAR OF INDIA,
Apl. 2nd, 1909.

32. The *Star of India* [Arrah] of the 2nd April expresses its profound gratitude to Mr. Johnston, Magistrate of Arrah, who lent a kind ear to the representation of the Muhammadan deputation that waited upon him, and nominated a Muhammadan of a Municipal Commissionership.

HITAVADI,
Apl. 2nd, 1909.

33. The reason why there was nothing like keen rivalry or enthusiasm in Calcutta, writes the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April, over the recent Municipal elections, is that the citizens have been deprived of all real powers by the new Municipal Act. The interest which the citizens of Calcutta took in Municipal elections before the Mackenzie Act was passed, is a thing of the past.

BIRBHUM VARTA,
Apl. 3rd, 1909.

34. The *Birbhum Varta* [Birbhum] of the 3rd April contains a suggestion for the establishment of a Municipality at Dubrajpur, in the district of Birbhum. It is a growing centre of population, the sanitation of which has been steadily deteriorating for lack of a proper supply of pure drinking-water. Whenever epidemics break out, they do not die out except after a good length of time. The expenses of the Municipality may be realised by a tax on the Marwari and other merchants who have congregated at this village, and by a tax on carts bringing produce into Dubrajpur Railway Station.

NAYAK,
Apl. 1st, 1909.

35. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 1st April draws the Lieutenant-Governor's notice to reports of acute water scarcity which it has received from Birbhum, Burdwan, Hooghly, Bankura and Midnapur.

CHINSURA
VARTAVAHA.
Apl. 6th, 1909.

36. The *Chinsura Vartavaha* [Chinsura] of the 6th April says, that the water scarcity in Bengal is going to assume very serious proportions, so much so indeed, that if early attention be not paid to this subject by the rulers, depopulation of the villages will become inevitable. Severe water-scarcity now prevails in almost all the villages in Bengal. The Magistrate of Hooghly and the Divisional Commissioner should take steps to have tanks excavated in the mufassal, and thereby save the lives of the people.

(f)—Question affecting the land.

NIHAR,
Mar. 30th, 1909.

37. Continuing, the series of articles on the Settlement operations in Midnapur, the *Nihar* [Contai] of the 30th March writes:—

The Government has made various rules and regulations; in order that Survey and Settlement operations may be carried out smoothly. Everybody knows that the Government never wishes to put the people to any trouble or inconvenience; and if at any time it is brought to its notice that its officers are doing anything wrong, the Government redresses that wrong immediately. If all this issuing of illegal notices, and the troubles and inconvenience which raiyats had to undergo on account of having to attend Court till midnight had been immediately brought to the notice of the higher authorities, these things would surely have been put a stop to. The reason why nobody raised a voice against all these iniquities, was because they did not dare to displease the Camp Officer and his Amla who might if they chose try to put the raiyats to trouble by settling their (the raiyats') properties in a way unfavourable to their interests, and by dismissing any petitions or objections which they might put in. Every Court allows parties enough time and opportunities to conduct their cases properly, but such is rarely the case with Settlement Courts. It is always very difficult to get witnesses to go and give evidence in the Court, because of the late hour at night up to which they are detained there, and of the difficulty of obtaining any refreshments near Camp Courts, as well as because of the fact that the notices are served just on the morning of the date of the hearing of cases. Besides, if the parties fail to put in an appearance by 9 A.M., their cases are often dismissed. It does not infrequently take place that the notice is served at a person's residence at a time when he is away from home on business, and he is thus put to very great

inconvenience. He can seldom expect to have the date of the hearing of his case put off for a period longer than five or six days. Now to walk six or seven miles and arrive at the Camp Court by 9 o'clock on a winter morning, and then to dance attendance there up to ten or eleven at night, keeping without food all this time, entail not a little trouble and inconvenience on persons who have the misfortune to be summoned to the Court. Then, again, they have to trudge their way home at about 11 o'clock at night through muddy roads which are usually infested with snakes. But whatever may be their inconvenience, they can get no redress from the Settlement Officer.

Sometimes a man has to pay a fine of twelve annas for disobeying a notice about which he knows nothing whatever till a *chaprasi* comes to realise the fine. It is the procedure in every Law Court to first call upon a man to show cause why he should not be fined for an offence which he might have committed. In the Settlement Courts, however, no one is allowed to enter upon his defence.

According to the rules framed by the Government, a person is to be fined only when he fails to appear before a Settlement Court, even after he has received a notice of warning; but in spite of all that, the Settlement Officers levy a fine from raiyats immediately after issuing a notice. And what is stranger still, a man has sometimes to pay a fine twice over; for even after he has paid twelve annas to the *chaprasi* as fine, he has to pay another twelve annas before the Settlement Court on the day of hearing of his case. Is not this illegal? The facts can be verified from the records of any Camp.

38. The *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipore] of the 3rd April contains an article communicated by one Chandra Kishore Narayan Lal, who writes as follows on the agrarian disturbances in Champaran:—

Bihar Bandhu,
Apr. 3rd, 1900.

The agrarian disturbances in
Champaran.

It is said that Berham Deo Lube, Ram Pratab Tewari, Satnarayan Tewari, Radha Tewari and Jokhan Mahto, who are attached to the Norton Factory, are to be proceeded against under section 505. Three or four days ago the Sahib of the Norton Factory called these men to his bungalow and asked them to pay him as *salami* Rs. 500 or Rs. 1,000 each, in which case he would not proceed against them; but they declined to pay down the amount for many of the accused had bribed the Sahib but were not saved from being prosecuted. The factory-men boast that they cultivate indigo through the help of Government, that a barrister has been sent to help them (in conducting cases), and that a punitive police has been quartered in the villages in order to help them in sowing indigo, but at the cost of the raiyats. I regret to say there is no one to look to the sufferings of the helpless raiyats but God, for no orders have yet been issued by Government exempting the raiyats from cultivating indigo. They believed that Mr. Gourlay, who had seen the sad plight of the raiyats with his own eyes, would lay the facts before the Government and recommend that the raiyats should be exempted from sowing indigo. Chota Sall, Fatah Lal, Ganga Rai, Ganpat Rai, Kodayi Ray, Saryug Chahe, Dabri Sahay, Imrit Sah, Simrit Sah, etc., are rotting in jail. These persons had sown barley and wheat in their *tin kathya* (contracted for sowing indigo) fields, but the factory-men mean to remove the seedling forcibly and sow indigo instead. Everyone, whether bound down (or imprisoned) or not, will be required to sow indigo (in his field). I hoped that at least those who are in jail would not be required to sow indigo. Those who are in jail have nobody to look after their family, and the factory-men prevent anybody doing any work for them, and beat any labourer who does it. Many raiyats have sent in representations to the Manager of the factories, praying them for exemption from sowing indigo. We now await the result. The Europeans say that they make the raiyats sow indigo of their own free will, as to sow indigo is to their advantage. Great oppression is now-a-days being committed in the villages under the factory. The factory-men are extorting money from the raiyats, by giving out that such and such persons are implicated in the case which would be sent up to the Magistrate, and this would result in their conviction

to be sure; but they may be saved if they can pay money. We pray God that good sense may prevail with Mr. Gourlay, so that he may give answers to the queries on the subject contained in the *Statements* of the 20th ultimo.

(h)—General.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
Mar. 31st, 1909.

39. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 31st March, in noticing the

The claim of Musalmans for
separate representation.

Musalmans demand for separate representation on Legislative Councils and Local Self-Governing Bodies, writes that this implies that seven crores of Musalmans are henceforth to equal 24 crores of Hindus, that is, one Musalman is to count as 4 Hindus. The paper then sarcastically proceeds to remark that after this claim for separate representation will come demands for separate Musalman schools or separate Musalman classes in ordinary schools, and then for separate Musalman subdivisions of districts, on the analogy of the existing Musalman quarters of villages, and finally for special trams and cars and roads for Musalmans. The best solution of the difficulty will probably be to divide India in four States, and reserve one for Musalmans. Let the 30 millions of Musalmans who inhabit the Punjab and other parts of India come and settle in East Bengal, and let that Province be placed under a man like Sir B. Fuller. That will be an ideal arrangement, calculated to satisfy men like Nawab Salimulla.

BIHAR GAZETTE,
Apr. 1st, 1909.

40. A writer signing himself as Abdur Rauf contributes an article to the *Bihar Gazette* [Bankipore] of the 8th April, in which he supports Lord Morley's measure to grant

The Reform Scheme.

a separate electorate to the Mahammadans, on the ground of its efficiency for preserving their rights and enabling them to form themselves into a living organisation. The writer then emphasises the need for all the Indians to try to make the scheme a success when it is put into operation, for it is possible that they may not find again such kind-hearted rulers as Lords Morley and Minto.

NAYAK,
Mar. 31st, 1909.

41. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 31st March agrees in the views expressed by Raja Piyari Mohan Mukerjee in his speech

Representatives of the zamindars in Legislative Councils.

at the Annual Meeting of the British Indian Association regarding the importance of the zamindar community being represented in Legislative Councils. In Bengal, writes the paper, it is the zamindars who are the real leaders of the people and it would be doing injustice to the Bengalis if zamindars are placed on the same level as the Babus.

HITVARTA,
Apr. 1st, 1909.

42. The *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 1st April takes exception to the new rule of levying small fees from cultivators in Madras

Fees for advice in agricultural matters.

civilised countries.

for giving them advice in agricultural matters, as it is opposed to the practice obtaining in other

HITAVADI,
Apr. 2nd, 1909.

43. Referring to the multitude of questions asked in the House of Commons regarding the deportation of nine men

The Bengal deportees in Parliament.

from Bengal and the replies which Mr. Buchanan gave to them, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd

April says :—

Such conduct on the part of one who is at the helm of the Indian Empire is indeed most mortifying to us; but at the same time it is no less disgraceful to the British Empire and the British nation. The Indian people are proverbially loyal. We, therefore, respectfully ask Lords Morley and Minto not to follow a crooked policy and try to support the deportation of nine Bengali gentlemen, thereby making an exhibition of levity before the sorrowing Indian people. Let the really guilty among the deported be brought to an open trial. The God Indra holds the bright thunder in his hands, but the knife of the assassin does not suit him. It is for this that we say that, considering the track which Indian politics is following, the fair name of the British people is being dragged into the mire.

44. In a leading article, the *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipore] of the 3rd April gives an account of the operation of Regulation III of 1818 since its beginning, and says that under its operation the ex-King of Oudh was deported to Calcutta, Baji Rao Peshwa to Bithur and Bahadur Shah, Emperor of Delhi, to Rangoon. The son of the Lion of the Punjab was also stopped on his way home and taken back to England under its operation.

BHARAT BANHU,
Apl. 3rd, 1900.

The year 1897 is memorable in the annals of India, for in that year Poona was visited by a great calamity. Plague broke out in the town, and very stringent laws were introduced to beat the scourge out of the country. Strict enforcement of these laws, however, made life intolerable to the residents of Poona. The true friend and pride of the Indians, Mr. Tilak, the reputation of whose name in the morning everyday is auspicious, was sent to Jail. Even that gentleman who longed for a name and did not hesitate to sue the Hindu Panch for Rs. 2,000 as compensation for libel, also fell into a difficulty, and extricated himself by offering an apology. The Natu brothers were deported to Ratnagiri the same year. Ten year after the law was applied to the Punjab, when Lala Lajpat Rai and Sardar Ajit Singh were deported to Burma. This year it has been brought into operation in Bengal, and nine men have been deported.

45. Referring to the recent announcement published in the *Calcutta Gazette* annulling the declaration of the *Prabhat*, the *Bir Bharat* [Calcutta] of the 4th April remarks:—

BIR BHARAT,
Apl. 4th, 1900.

"This is verily blowing off the bug by means of a gun."

46. In referring to the Budget debate in the Viceroy's Council last week, the *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipore] of the 3rd April is glad to see a reduction in the Military expenditure, and is opposed to loans for Railway Extension, as they stand in the way of Primary and Technical Education, as well as Sanitation, which are to that extent neglected. The unrest has much abated since the announcement of the Reform Scheme, but one cause of irritation still remains, viz., the deportation of nine men without bringing any charge against them.

BHARAT BANHU,
Apl. 3rd, 1900.

47. Referring to the provision made in the India Budget estimate for railway extension the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 3rd April makes the following observations:—

BASUMATI,
Apl. 3rd, 1900.

Provision for railway extension in India in the Budget estimate. Fifteen crores have been sanctioned this year for railway extension. In a country where pestilence and disease have made their home, where for want of education the masses are steeped in ignorance and where famine has grown chronic, the authorities should not have devoted their attention exclusively to railway extension. Railways cannot be the panacea for all the evils to which the country is subject. They are a great help to foreign trade, and at the time of famine they no doubt facilitate the sending of speedy relief; but on the other hand, they drain the country of its crops and bring about famine, at the same time exposing the indigenous manufactures to unequal competition with foreign-made goods. Railways also help to spread malaria in the country. On this subject Mr. Horace Bell, the head of the Government Railway Department, says:—

"My own idea is, after some study of the subject, that taking the average of good and bad seasons, India is unable to stand the drain of its present export trade in food stuffs, that the agency we have looked to to avert scarcity or famine if you like, is on the whole acting the other way. I refer to our Railway system * * * *"

Thus such an eminent authority, who was the Consulting Engineer of the Railway Department, distinctly says that railway extension is increasing famine. Those who compare Indian railways with railways in other countries are singularly deficient in the power of taking a comprehensive view of things. Railways in other countries are intended for the extension of internal commerce, while those in India are for the extension of foreign commerce. At a time when retrenchment is being made even in matters

of the greatest importance, we do not see the necessity of spending such a huge sum as fifteen crores for railway construction. We know it for a fact that Sir James Westland was against such rapid extension of railways. It was Lord Curzon who introduced this system. We do not deny that Government should invest money in the most paying undertakings. But is railway extension the most lucrative business? Lord Curzon himself admitted that irrigation works are the most paying. Why, then, is irrigation neglected? Government should not forget that, being a civilised and responsible Government, it has a duty by the people of the country, which is to look to the health and the education of the people committed to its charge.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Apl. 5th, 1909.

48. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 5th April has the following on the subject noted in the margin:—

The Budget Debate.

As to the analogy of insurance against fire, etc., referred to by Lord Kitchener, Government seems thereby to insinuate that in face of the present unsettled state of the country, the strengthening of the Military needs special attention. How can the people save their lives by spending more and more money on the army and making the police the object of favour. Unrest is rampant in India, at least exaggerated accounts of them have been published by papers. When, we would ask, were the services of the army required and, if they were not required, why is the Military expenditure needlessly increased? There are no indications of any foreign invasion. Why is the Viceroy (Commander-in-Chief?) employing all sorts of devices to increase the Military expenditure. We are of opinion that deficits of any other department should be made good from what is provided for the Military Department. It will not do to ridicule the idea by inapt comparisons with insurance, etc. If India was a country to be consumed by fire, why would we have been anxious to honour the Englishmen here, and been anxious to secure condign punishment for the anarchists. Had this been the case the Englishmen would have imported men from their own country to do even the trivial things. No, the facts are quite different. The Indians do not wish ill to the English. The Indians have made the English rule firm in this country. If the Government, therefore were to act in perfect confidence of the people not only the Military but the Police Department as well, would not be required. India is a land of saints, where jealousy, fraud, etc., were quite unknown. The poor Indians are about to have the same fate as befell Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden for eating the forbidden fruit and this because of their receiving Western education. Has there been a country which could be compared with India for patient suffering and love of peace?

As for the question of irrigation whatever the Government may do to evade the issue, scarcity of water has been the sole cause of the cultivators' misery. There is no doubt, therefore, that a good system of education will remove the food difficulty of the people.

NAYAK,
May. 31st, 1909.

49. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 31st March writes:—

The Bengal Budget.

The Government of this country is a variable white elephant. For the people have to spend an enormous sum of money for its upkeep. In Bengal alone the expenses of the Criminal Investigation Department rose from Rs. 73,849 in 1906-07 to Rs. 1,20,918 in 1907-08, and to Rs. 1,36,000 in 1908-09. In the coming year the budgetted expenditure of this Department will be Rs. 1,92,000. In the course of his budget speech, Sir Harvey Adamson takes the people of this country to task for not helping the police at all. What more help can the people give to the police? Do not Bengalis annually pay eighty-four lakhs of rupees for the upkeep of the police? Two lakhs out of this amount is spent on the Criminal Investigation Department. It is our money which feeds the police, and yet it is the police who have the right of punishing us. Every European Superintendent of Police is a Nawab Siraj-ud-dowla; and as for the Inspectors, they are high and mighty personages. Even the petty parawallah with his red turban allows himself the airs of a god. All these men are very anxious to wound us with our own weapons. Why, in these circumstances,

should the people care to help the police and co-operate with them in their work?

Our benign Government while it spends eighty-four lakhs of rupees for the maintainances of the peace in a quiet Province like Bengal, spares only four and-a-half lakhs of rupees for the improvement of the sanitation of this Province, whose population consists of five crores of men and women, and which is being ravaged by malaria and cholera. To think that a highly civilised Government spends only four and-a-half lakhs of rupees for the Sanitary improvement of a Province like this! One is tempted to say many things on this subject, but what is the good? No one cares to listen to what you or we may say, nor will anybody ever listen to us. If our voice is ever listened to, it is only when vexation rises to a high pitch, and then that leads to sedition.

Next about the sums spent on luxuries. The Province has to spend a lakh of rupees annually as the salary of its Lieutenant-Governor, and another couple of lakhs for his miscellaneous expenses. There are other heavy expenses which the Province has to meet. And yet five lakhs of rupees can provide fifty thousand men and women with good drinking-water, and thereby prolong their lives. Every Englishman knows this, but nothing is done to remedy such a state of things. Lieutenant-Governor Baker knows Bengal and the Bengalis very well; and if he remains indifferent, there is no help.

The revenue of Bengal amounts to five and-a-half crores of rupees; over and above this there are the Municipal rates which come up to about another two or three crores. The whole of this amount has to be paid by us. So we are led to say that Government is a white elephant which Bengal has to maintain.

50. Referring to the speech delivered by Sir Edward Baker in last Friday's meeting of the Bengal Legislative Council, in which His Honour enjoined upon the Hon'ble Members to be brief in their speeches, as otherwise he would be compelled to stop them before they came to the end, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April says:—

We do not know how far His Honour's utterances pleased the members. But, considering that native members are allowed only one day in the whole year to express their views about administrative matters, they should not be found fault with if their speeches are somewhat long. Moreover, as the native members are powerless to put any check upon the actions of the rulers, they should be granted some latitude in indulging in speeches by way of consolation. To deprive them of this consolation, is surely not indicative of sympathy in the ruler of the Province.

May we ask, why only one day is allowed for the budget discussion? Considering that the number of native members in the Council is going to be increased, three days at least should be allowed for the budget. But His Honour said that in future he would allow the shortest possible time to the Hon'ble Members for the budget discussion. We feel bound to protest against this determination of His Honour.

The allotment of only Rs. 30,000 in the budget for the Sanitary improvement is indeed miserably short. Indifference towards sanitation is not only open to grave objection, but is positively sinful. It reflects little credit on the rulers that last year they failed to spend the whole amount sanctioned for sanitation. The only remedy which Government offer to the people is quinine, and their responsibility ends there. The Financial Secretary speaks of making arrangements for the sale of quinine pills. This, indeed, is surprising. Is it not more important to prevent malaria, than to treat it with quinine?

51. In discussing the Indian Financial Statement, the *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 3rd April writes:—

Bengal Finance.

The Government of India has left the Bengal Government with an income of Rs. 5,60,00,000 only. The Bengal Government has to manage with this fixed income only. Naturally, therefore, income and expenditure do not balance each other.

All Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal have been protesting against this treatment. Although Sir Ashley Eden was the one to show the strongest opposition, Sir Edward Baker has also protested this year in a very good way,

HITAVADI,
Apl. 2nd, 1909.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
Apl. 3rd, 1909.

as has the Hon'ble Mr. Slacke. Sir Guy Wilson was to some extent displeased at this, pointing out that Sir Edward Baker, when he was Finance Member, considered this income sufficient for Bengal. The Hon'ble Member evidently forgot the simple fact that there is a great difference between Sir Edward Baker, the Finance Minister and Sir Edward Baker, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

Since 1877, Bengal has been the victim of financial injustice at the hands of the Government of India. The income of Bengal cannot be less than 60 Crores. Taking it to be even 25 crores only, Bengal gets only a beggarly 5 crores and 60 lakhs out of that. If John Bright's scheme of cutting India up into seven and eight independent Provincial Governments had been adopted, Bengal would not have to wait on the pleasure of the Government of India to-day in this fashion. In short, Sir Guy's statements are against justice and against facts.

NAYAK.
Mar. 30th, 1909.

52. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 30th March has the following:—

"A white elephant." Many are the persons who can afford to buy an elephant, but very few dare to undertake the upkeep of one. Lord Curzon has provided the Bengalis with a white elephant, but we see that nobody has the capacity to provide for its feed and upkeep.

What is this white elephant? It is the partition of Bengal. An examination of the financial statements of the two Bengals convinces us that this affair is comparable to keeping up and feeding a white elephant. The Exchequers of the two Bengals have been wholly exhausted in supplying funds for keeping up this partition. This is inevitable. The income remains as before; there is no means of augmenting it; rather it is dwindling daily through the influence of plague and high prices. Nevertheless the expenditure has been doubled. The country, which was governed by one Lieutenant-Governor, has been split in twain, and two Lieutenant-Governships created, with two Secretariats, and duplication all round. The expenses have also been doubled in all directions. There is further the fact that under English methods of government, income and expenditure balance each other nicely—the slightest variation inevitably leaves the expenditure in excess of the income. Moreover, such is the beauty of the arrangements of the Government that no count is taken of the incomings in regulating the outgoings, which are permitted to occur in a reckless fashion. The income has to accrue in the course of a whole year, but expenditure is to go on fixed lines from the very beginning of the year. There are variations of seasons, and natural calamities to reckon with: money may fail to be realised owing to various causes. But the ways of the Government suggest that it does not think of this simple point; it is going on adding to its expenses according to its whim and laying on an ever-increasing burden of taxation on the shoulders of the people. The people of India are never indisposed to paying taxes. He will go on paying taxes so long as he is alive. But certainly he should be allowed a little breathing space, an interval of rest. The people of India know how to live on a meal of mud only, but they must be allowed time to take that meal even.

Can you say what great war you fought last year, or what fierce famine or plague you sought strenuously to alleviate the ravages of, that the Indian Government as well as the Governments of the two Bengals have all become bankrupt? Can you say what terrible anarchy there has been in the country, how many bombs have burst, how many men have been killed, how much *swadeshi* and boycott have spread that there has been an excessive expenditure in order to repress the guilty? Again, may we not ask why these mishaps happen? You have said in reply that these troubles have occurred because of the partition of Bengal. But who told you, may we not ask, to bring these troubles on? Who told you imperatively that the partition of Bengal was an absolutely necessary measure which was to be carried out forthwith? Lord Curzon divided Bengal through *zid*. The inoffensive Bengalis at first wept, and entreated, and finally becoming desperate devised the boycott. All this excessive expenditure is due to this. Annul the partition and unify the two Bengals, and you will see in the twinkling of an eye all trouble ended, all danger quieted down.

The English people do not like readily to undo wrongs done by themselves. The partition of Bengal was a wrong inflicted by Lord Curzon on the

English system of government. Until this wrong is righted, any amount of fair dealing and concessions in other directions will not remove the stigma attaching to it. Unless the partition of Bengal is undone, it will be no good conferring any number of high appointments on Bengalis on the Viceroy's Executive Council or as Judicial Commissioner, etc.

Only he who is a saving man can afford to keep a white elephant, but for him who is driven to borrowing in any the least unfavourable circumstance, for such a man it may not be suprising to want to buy a white elephant, but one is astonished with amazement to see such a man want to keep and feed one. The people of India are the inexhaustible stores you draw on. But that store is getting exhausted. If you milk your cow now in a new way, you may perchance get a drop or two of her blood, but it will be difficult for you to get wholesome milk. It is for your welfare that we say that. If you spend all your income in ruining such a great Empire, you will, when confronted by the slightest danger, know not where to turn for relief. It is ridiculous and shameful to hear that twenty lakhs have been spent on the punishment of a few Bengalis. Fifty lakhs will conquer Cabul and Tibet, and yet do not suffice to keep a number of unruly Bengali youths in check. Either your police are making a mountain of a mole-hill, or befooling you, or they are incompetent and know not how to punish the guilty and protect the innocent. The police cannot catch hold of the criminal, unless he gives himself up, and yet Government is spending lakhs on lakhs on this same police.

The fact is Government regards as most difficult and hard the very thing which we hold to be the easiest and simplest, while that which appears to be us to be serious, appears to Government to be very easy. Spending comes very easy to Englishmen. Sir Andrew Fraser built a ball-room at Belvedere at a cost of about two lakhs, spent five lakhs on the Fraserganj colonisation scheme, and wasted no end of money month by month over the deep sea fisheries inquiry. Money is being spent like water on useless objects like these. Every one's idea is that the expenses should remain at the figure at which they stand; the income must be augmented to keep pace with the expenditure.

This cannot be called a squaring up of the accounts. Forty-five lakhs are to be laid out on Government buildings at Dacca; if necessary new taxation must be imposed and the outlay on sanitation reduced. This is a veritable white elephant. Is its upkeep and feed to go on like this for ever?

53. The deficit with which the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam is faced, writes the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 1st April, shows how nicely the prophecy of the authors of the partition about the good government of the new Province has been fulfilled. And is this not good government, since within three years it has managed to bring the new Province to the verge of bankruptcy? And what is the cause of this? Nothing but the enormous increase in the expenditure. Since the partition, Eastern Bengal and Assam has to maintain a Lieutenant-Governor and a host of officials whose salaries swallow up a considerable portion of its revenues. Then there is the money spent in building offices and residences for officials.

No Government can go on with a deficit year after year, and some remedy must have to be found for the financial difficulty which faces the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam. Already some English papers are suggesting the idea of raising the taxes in that Province, and their suggestion will no doubt be carried out sooner or later. Now, since eighty per cent. of the population of Eastern Bengal and Assam consists of Musalmans, the burden of the new taxation will fall on Musalmans more than Hindus. What will then Nawab Salimulia and his followers, who have all along supported the partition, do? Will they still consider it as a boon, or will they have the good sense to side with the Hindus in their (the Hindus) agitation against the partition?

54. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April writes:—

The budget statement of the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

The budget statement of the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam discloses the fact that it is hopelessly bankrupt. And yet the authorities will not give up their *aid* in maintaining

SANJIVANI,
Apl. 1st 1909.

HITVADI,
Apl. 2nd, 1909.

the partition. The Financial Secretary says that the Government buildings at Dacca should be at once constructed by the retrenchment of all other expenses. The public will not however fail to divine the motive underlying this feverish anxiety to finish the Government buildings at all costs. If the offices and Court buildings are once completed, it is thought the people will give up all all hope for the reversal of the partition, and agitation will cease. The Government of Sir L. Hare must be under a great delusion, if it seriously believes that its contemplated move will produce the desired result. Let the Government cover the streets of Dacca with gold if it pleases; the agitation against the ill-fated partition will still continue as ever.

HITAVADI
Apl. 2nd, 1900.

55. Referring to the meeting recently held at the Town Hall to protest against the grant of separate electorates for Muhammadans the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April writes:—

The protest meeting at the Town Hall.

Mr. Samsul Huda opposed the resolution condemning the principle of separate representation for Muhammadans on the ground that if the Hindus opposed, the Musalmans would be annoyed and exasperated. Did Mr. Huda contradict those co-religionists of his who denounced certain Hindus as seditionists and demanded separate representation for Muhammadans? Did it not strike him then that such action would hurt Hindu feelings? In spite of all that Mr. Huda may say, there is no doubt that those who advocated separate representation for Muhammadans had no substantial argument to support their plea. Their arguments were based upon base selfishness and abject flattery. Hatred of the Hindu lurked in all they said. It is a satisfaction to us that the leaders of our society were unanimous in their condemnation of the principle of separate representation. They truly said that if separate representation be maintained, if clause 3 of the Indian Reform Bill be not re-inserted, and if the partition of Bengal be not revoked, then the proposed reforms will not be acceptable to us, and that we can have no sympathy with them. Our prayer is that Lord Morley will still think over the matter calmly. Not only the Bengalis, but all other communities in India, save and except the Musalmans, oppose the principle of separate representation and the exclusion of clause 3. Under the circumstances it will be extremely unwise to yield to the cries of a handful of selfish and short-sighted Musalmans. It is not yet too late for Lord Morley to realise the gravity of the opposition and to follow a truly liberal policy. Otherwise, his reforms will prove a dismal failure.

In this connection we must remind our countrymen that they should by no means remain silent at this juncture. Let protest meetings be held all over the country. If Government should turn a deaf ear to our cries, nobody would be justified in holding us responsible for what may turn out in future. Our demands are just, and we must go on agitating till our prayers are granted. We cannot rest satisfied simply with thinking that we are entering a new era. The new era that is coming promises us no good; how then can we afford to sing the praises of the rulers?

SOLTAN,
Apl. 2nd, 1900.

56. The *Soltan* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April writes:—

Sir B. K. Bose's appointment. Government is compelled to comply with the insistent demands of the Hindus, because they are very skilful in pushing on their national claims and are a people who will take no refusal. Along with Mr. S. P. Sinha's appointment we hear that Sir B. K. Bose has been appointed Additional Judicial Commissioner of the Central Provinces. No Indian was ever before appointed to this last post. The Musalmans resort to flattering Government, but all in vain.

JASOHAR,
Apl. 15th, 1900.

57. Referring to the announcement made in the United Provinces Legislative Council that the post of the Judicial Commissioner of Oudh, when vacant, will be given to an experienced native lawyer, the *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 15th April says:—

The proposed appointment of a native lawyer as Judicial Commissioner of Oudh.

If instead of inexperienced Europeans, able native lawyers be appointed to high posts in the Executive and Judicial Service, injustice and oppression will disappear, and peace will reign in the country. The Government should adopt such a wise policy. The announcement has given great satisfaction to native lawyers.

58. Referring to the appointment of the Hon'ble Mr. S. P. Sinha as Legal Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, the *Tirhut Samachar* [Muzaffarpur] of the 1st April says that the appointment is a dignified one and the Indians may therefore be justly proud of it. The paper then thanks Government for conferring the post on a man who well deserved it.

TIRHUT SAMACHAR
Apr. 1st, 1909.

59. The appointment of Mr. S. P. Sinha as Law Member of the Supreme Council has, says the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 1st April, created a heart-burning in some persons. It is no use mentioning the efforts, etc., made by those people to secure the appointment. The readers of this paper must have guessed by this time who these persons are. If not, they should give up reading newspapers.

HITAVARTA
Apr. 1st, 1909.

60. In appointing the Hon'ble Mr. S. P. Sinha as Law Member, Lord Morley has barely given effect to Her Majesty's pledge for which, says the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 1st April, "we must thank him; but we must note that we have only been given what we have so long been kept away from by the duplicity of Government officials. What is however puzzling to us is the opposition of the Lords to give us the rights we have long secured."

HITAVARTA,
Apr. 1st, 1909.

"Of course," continues the paper, "we have got this appointment through the kindness of Lord Morley and Lord Minto, but where is the guarantee that a native will again be appointed to the post after the Hon'ble Mr. S. P. Sinha retires? The Conservatives who have been highly enraged at the appointment are sure to wreak their vengeance no sooner they come to power."

61. The *Star of India* [Bankipur] of the 2nd April expresses its gratification at the appointment of the Hon'ble Mr. S. P. Sinha as Law Member, and says that every nation in India is glad of this wise selection by Lord Morley.

STAR OF INDIA,
Apr. 2nd, 1909.

The paper hopes that Mr. Sinha may prove by his sound counsels the usefulness of an Indian Member on the Executive Council.

62. The appointment of Mr. S. P. Sinha as Law Member of the Viceroy's Council, writes the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April, has been an act of great satisfaction to the Indians. They now find the door, which was so long closed, opened to them for ever, and henceforth the entrance to the Viceroy's Executive Council will be free to them. But there is yet another source of much greater satisfaction in this. The Indians now feel that Government now trusts them and that the old distrust has vanished. If the English did not trust the Indians, Mr. Sinha would never have found a place in the Viceroy's Council. If only an Indian had been appointed to a similar post during the administration of Lord Curzon, we are quite sure the present unrest and discontent would not have troubled the rulers at all.

HITAVADI,
Apr. 2nd, 1909.

Even the worst enemies of Indian progress, such as the *Pioneer* and the *Englishman*, have not dared to utter a single word against the fitness of Mr. Sinha for the post. In accepting the offer Mr. Sinha has suffered great loss financially, for his income as an advocate far exceeds what he will get as salary for the appointment. Lord Morley's firmness in making this appointment in the teeth of strong opposition on all sides, deserves the highest praise.

63. The *Chinsura Vartavaha* [Chinsura] of the 4th April congratulates Lord Morley and Lord Minto on the great boon conferred on the Indians by appointing Mr. S. P. Sinha to the Viceroy's Executive Council. The writer does not know how to express his heartfelt gratitude to their lordships for this favour.

CHINSURA
VARTAVAHA,
Apr. 4th, 1909.

64. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 30th March thanks Government for having conferred on a son of the late Babu Asutosh Biswas a post as an enrolled officer of the Finance Department.

NAYAK,
Mar. 30th, 1909.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Apl. 2nd 1909.

65. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April acclaims the action of Government in offering Babu Khitish Chandra Biswas, B.A., a post as an enrolled officer of the Finance Department, as indicative alike of its wish to appreciate merit and to discharge its duty to the late Babu Ashutosh Biswas.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
Apl. 1st 1909.

66. To the *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 1st April, the state of affairs disclosed by the Hon'ble Mr. Kershaw's recent financial statement presented to the Legislative Council at Dacca, is the

A plea for the reconsideration of the late Partition.

"new fact" postulated by Viscount Morley as one of the conditions necessary to the reconsideration of the Partition. Lord Curzon, when carrying out this measure, undertook that the extra charges consequent on it would be borne by the Imperial Exchequer. But it looks now as if that exchequer will prove unequal to the burden.

SAMAY,
Apl. 2nd 1909.

Is not the Partition to be revoked even now?

67. Under the heading noted in the margin the *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April writes:—

According to the Hon'ble Mr. Kershaw, Financial Secretary to the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam, that Government is bankrupt. May we ask if this is not the outcome of the Curzonian pranks? But where is Lord Curzon now? Bengal too, is, as the Hon'ble Mr. Oldham said, far from being in a prosperous condition. The Government of India now finds itself obliged to bear the burden of two white elephants. But how long can such a state of things continue? We have now a reduplication of every post, and of every department from the highest to the lowest. The expenditure has thus been doubled. That things would speedily come to such a sorry pass, was distinctly pointed out in a meeting held at the Town Hall on the 18th March, 1904, under the presidency of Raja Peari Mohan Mukerji. But Lord Curzon scornfully rejected the suggestion. He displayed his own folly, and brought disaster on the whole country.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
Apl. 2nd, 1909.

68. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April is sorry to hear that an outsider is going to be imported to fill the post of Advocate-General which shortly falls vacant by the appointment of Mr. S. P. Sinha as a member of the Viceroy's Executive Council. The writer is opposed to the proposed action of the Government. There are able barristers in Calcutta who can worthily fill the responsible and coveted post of the Advocate-General of Bengal. Why should their claims be overlooked?

69. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April congratulates the Government of Bengal on the provision made in this year's budget for the increment of the salaries of low-paid clerks. Considering the higher prices now ruling in the country, the Government of India should no longer be indifferent to the hard lot of the poor officers.

The Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam admits that the poor Government officers are in an extremely bad condition, but the provisions made for their relief are totally inadequate. Large amounts are being spent by the Government for suppressing sedition. Why should the poor officers alone be neglected?

HITAVADI,
Apl. 2nd, 1909.

High prices and low-paid Government officers.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

PURULIA-DARPAN,
Mar. 29th, 1909.

70. The *Purnlia Darpan* [Purulia] of the 29th March is sorry to find that nearly fifty-thousand rupees is going to be wasted in pompous pageants on the occasion of the visit of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to Purulia. It is a pity, says the paper, that the leading people of Manbhum are now ungrudgingly spending such a large sum of money, whereas they did little or nothing to help the starving men and women of the district during the last year's famine. Would not this fifty thousand rupees have been more properly spent in providing the people of the district with pure drinking-water, the want of which inflicted endless sufferings on them last year? The paper doubts whether Sir Edward Baker, who is noted for his kindness, will be pleased with such a useless waste of money.

Waste of money on the occasion of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor's visit to Purulia.

71. The *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 1st April quotes a song from the *Nayak* which is said to be the production of, and was sung by, Ullaskar Dutt, one of the accused in the Alipore Bomb case, of which the following is the purport:—

A Swadeshi song sung at the Alipur Sessions Court.

Fortunate I am that I was born in this country, and that I love you, Mother. I don't know where is that garden where flowers smell so sweet, in what sky the moon smiles so sweetly. Mother, when I open my eyes I behold your light and my eyes are refreshed; and I will close my eyes at last while gazing at that light.

72. Referring to the speech delivered by Sir Arthur Lawley at the Convocation of the Madras University in his capacity as Chancellor, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April writes:—

The Indians as citizens of the British Empire.

His Excellency styled the young men as "citizens." But the term implies the enjoyment of certain rights and privileges. If any citizen is in any way imperilled in a foreign country, the Government does its best to save him. Every Government is morally and legally bound to protect its citizens. But just think of the status of the British Indian "citizens." The Transvaal Indians have piteously cried for help from the British Government, but their cries have hitherto been cries in the wilderness. If any English citizen had been persecuted in China or in Persia, there would have been a call to arms at once, and many soldiers would have been ready to lay down their lives to save British citizens. What a difference between an Indian "citizen" and a British citizen! When Sir Arthur called the Madras youngmen citizens, what did he mean?

73. The *Soltan* [Calcutta] of the 2nd April, quoting from the *Nayak*, narrates how lately one day, Ullaskar Datta, one of the accused in the Alipore bomb case sang a patriotic song in the court-room, in a most moving way, which affected all present in the Court precincts at the time, including the Judge and a number of Vakils and Barristers.

"A song in Court".

74. The *Soltan* [Calcutta] of the 3rd April has a reference to Viscount Kitchener, describing him as a man of repute, who is well-known to Moslems for the manner in which he avenged himself by digging up the Madhi's tomb in the Soudan, and getting the remains trampled down by a horse's hoofs.

75. The *Alpanch* [Bankipore] of the 2nd April denounces the Suffragettes who have been for some time demanding equal rights with men in the British Parliament.

The Suffragettes riots.

76. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 3rd April expresses its gratification at hearing that the coming Agra Provincial Conference will disclaim the arbitrary rules made by the Congress, thanks Mr. Madan Mohan Malavia and others for it, and says that only they deserve to be called leaders who know how to act in accordance with public wishes.

The coming Agra Conference.

77. In noticing that a number of Europeans in America dragged a negro out of the jail, where he was imprisoned for having outraged a European lady, poured petroleum on him and set fire to his body which was reduced to ashes, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 5th March asks its readers to mark here the civilised conduct of the civilised Europeans of civilised America.

A horrifying news from America.

78. In reading that Mr. Battan Chandra Rewa Chand, Bar-at-Law of Karachi, who has forfeited his *Sanad* for misappropriating money, intends going to England to file an appeal in the Privy Council, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 5th April says that it would have been better if he had learnt the facts of Mr. Tilak's appeal before he made up his mind on the subject.

79. The *Marwari* [Calcutta] of the 26th March tells a story of a patriotic lady who had imbibed *swadeshim* in her father's house, and therefore refused to use a piece of costly foreign cloth bought her by her husband, justifying her

Swadeshim manifested by a lady.

JASOHAR
Apl. 1st, 1909.

HITAVADI,
Apl. 2nd, 1909.

SOLTAN,
Apl. 2nd, 1909.

SOLTAN,
Apl. 3rd, 1909.

ALPANCH,
Apl. 2nd, 1909.

BHARAT MITRA,
Apl. 3rd, 1909.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Mar. 5th, 1909.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Apl. 5th, 1909.

MARWARI,
Apl. 26th, 1909.

conduct by telling him that its use meant ruin to the mother-country. The husband remonstrated with her, but to no purpose. Next day her husband resigned his employment in a European merchant's firm in Chowringhee and started a match factory which made him prosperous. The moral is obvious.

JASOHAR,
Apl. 1st, 1909.

80. In spite of the reports which have reached the *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 1st April, the paper is not inclined to believe that many of the people of the Jessore district

Swadeshi in Jessore. have given up using *swadeshi* articles for fear of incurring official displeasure. It is not impossible, says the paper, that a few half-educated and unsympathetic men do buy foreign-made goods, but really educated and high-minded people will never be deterred from their *swadeshi* now. As for the illiterate masses, the question of bread engrosses all their attention, and they know little or nothing about the favour or disfavour of officials. It is not, therefore, likely that they have begun to use British goods in order to keep themselves in the good graces of the Government. Besides, has not the Government itself given ample proofs of its support of *swadeshi* industries by giving preference to articles manufactured in India? True, indeed, that the zeal of the popular leaders has abated a little, and this circumstance may be ascribed by some to their fear of officials. But that cannot really be the case. The patriots of Jessore should, however, be up and doing and do their best to promote the *Swadeshi* cause.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Apl. 5th, 1909.

81. Referring to the expression of opinion at the meeting of the London British Cotton-growing Association held on the 31st March last, dwelling on the loss sustained by it owing to the *swadeshi* movement in India, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 5th April says: "Who can deny after this that *swadeshi* has borne some fruit?"

DAILY HITAVADI,
Apl. 6th, 1909.

82. In discussing the question of the participation by students in practical politics the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 6th April writes:—We may hold it undesirable for students to join in political agitation, but we do not look on it as a heinous sin either. Lately a great Bombay educationist gave it as his parting advice to his pupils to shun politics. Against this we may put the advice of Bankim Babu to a young medical student who had gone to him for instruction at the threshold of his career: "Do your duty whatever this duty may be." Indeed, a student's duty is not confined within the four corners of his reading-room. Helping a neighbour in distress, nursing a sick relative, chastising an erring younger brother—all these are duties which are as much binding on him as his studies. Arguing in this way, is not the welfare of his country a matter which has claim on a student's time and energy? All action in this direction by students is now held by officials to be political. We can understand students attending a meeting to support the Reform Scheme, or to suggest the re-insertion of clause III in the Indian Councils Bill, being held to be taking part in politics. Why, however, should he be taken to be participating in political agitation if he attends a meeting, the object of which is to encourage people to use indigenous things, and to discuss the industrial state of the country? The only explanation is that anything which in any way, however remote, affects the interests of Europeans, is held to be political.

The history of the past of our own land and of foreign lands is studied in our schools and colleges only, in order that their lessons may be applied to the political conditions of our present-day existence. On no other supposition can this study be held to be of any profit. The officials wish that after acquiring a knowledge of the past, our students should not proceed to think of its bearing on the present. But thoughts can never be chained by any Government. In short, our view is that students, if they are not to participate in political agitation, should not by any means refrain from political discussions.

BIR BHARAT,
Apr. 6th, 1909.

83. The *Bir Bharat* [Calcutta] of the 4th April has the following under the heading noted in the margin:—

Government service.

The English Historians of India have represented the Muhammadan rulers as tyrants and debauchees and bad characters while singing their own praises. In spite of this, it is a known fact and admitted by themselves that the Hindus had access to high offices under them. The Musalmans did never raise a hue and cry against such appointments nor did

such appointments terrify them. We come across the names of Hindu ministers, generals, subadars, etc., at every page of the history dealing with Muhammadan rulers. While the Muhammadan general Mir Jafar humiliated the dignity of the Musalmans by his siding with the English in their war with the Nawab, the Hindu general Mohan Lall, on the other hand, lost his life for his master on the battlefield of Plassey and thus raised the glory of the Hindus.

The Members of Parliament had once enchanted the Indians by impeaching the first Governor-General, Warren Hastings. Some time after this the Queen's Proclamation took complete possession of the hearts of the Indians; but the Government of India would not fulfil the pledges made therein till after 50 years of the same, when the Government of India has at last resolved to give a high office to an Indian. In fact, the Hon'ble Mr. S. P. Sinha has been appointed as Law Member. The Indians had hitherto held officiating appointments as Divisional Commissioners, but the post of a Law Member had never before fallen to the lot of any Indian.

The Muhammadan kings considered it to be their duty to associate the Indians with them in the administration of the country and in promoting peace in it. Why do not the English follow the same policy? It seems to us that the English do not venture to rely upon the good faith of the Indians and therefore hesitate to place the key of administration in their hands.

The people of other countries must call it absurd if they are told that there is no good understanding between the rulers and the ruled (in India). It would have surprised the world if England had a Prime Minister other than an Englishman and Japan other than a Japanese, etc. But such is really the case in India! The Government of India, far from selecting the Indians, selects such of the Englishmen as ministers as are utterly ignorant of the manners, customs and modes of living of the Indians. The English, in spite of being well aware of the good understanding between the rulers and the ruled, have purposely made the problem of administration of the country so intricate that Lord Morley has had to take great pains to solve it.

The English, however learned they may be, are yet quite ignorant of the manners and customs of the Indians. It is a hopeless task for Englishmen to appreciate the feelings of Indians. The works from which they derive the knowledge of the Indians are all written by the English themselves and are therefore of no value as regards any correct information about the people. The first impression made by these books last for ever in the minds of the officials who are further spoiled by what the Anglo-Indians pour into their ears, so that they refrain from mixing with the Indians.

The Government has, however, now understood that unless an Indian is appointed a Law Member, the Indians can have no law suited to their requirements, and has therefore appointed Mr. Sinha as Law Member. This has pleased our countrymen very highly. The rulers gain as much by trusting the ruled as the latter gain by their confidence in the former. So long as the English had no faith in the Indians, the latter too had no faith in the former. As the late Queen's Proclamation had been left inoperative for 50 years, the Indians had begun to lose their faith in the English and apprehended mischief from everything that the latter did. The English have, to some extent, regained the good will of the Indians by the appointment of Mr. Sinha as Law Member, and if certain other increased powers are granted to the Indians all agitation in the country will cease before long.

URIYA PAPERS.

84. The *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 13th February agrees with its contemporary, the *Utkaldipika*, in the latter's

A proposal to remove restrictions imposed on professional hunters under the Indian Arms Act.

statement that the restrictions imposed on the people of Orissa under the Indian Arms Act have prevented the professional hunters from carrying

on their trade freely and that this state of things has enabled tigers to commit depredations in different parts of the Orissa Garjats. It is true that Government and state officers sometimes kill tigers, but that is only when they find leisure to do so. The writer suggests that the restrictions imposed on professional hunters should be removed and that they should further be

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,
Feb. 13th, 1909.

encouraged by rewards to kill the man-eaters. Unless some such arrangement is made, agriculturists will find it difficult to carry on their trade, while the villagers will be prevented from walking on the public road freely.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,
Feb. 13th, 1909.

85. Referring to the assault committed on Sir W. Lee-Warner in London by a Bengali student, the *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 13th February observes that the Bengali students have of late become very unruly and that they have created very bad feelings in the minds of the rulers. This is a matter of great regret.

SAMBAD VARIKA,
Feb. 13th, 1909.

86. The *Sambad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 13th February states that the proceedings of the Revision Settlement have in a manner unsettled the whole of Orissa. It has not only made the people restless but has proved to be a prolific source of dispute, for which the underlings of the department are mainly responsible. The people of Orissa submitted memorials to the Government on the subject, but no attention was paid to them. In the words of Lord Morley, Revision Settlement has become a "settled fact" in Orissa. The procedure generally followed in the Revision Settlement camp is, to say the least of it, very irregular. No dates are fixed for hearing any suit or class of suits. Hundreds of suits are disposed of in a single day; consequently, many are summoned to appear before the Settlement Officers on a single day, and as their suits are not disposed of on that date, and no other date is fixed, they are compelled to dance attendance from day to day. This state of things continues from November to June, that is, from the commencement of the harvest season to the end of the weeding season. As a consequence, both landlords and tenants are put to the greatest inconvenience. The Latbandi dates fall within this period. The difficulty of zamindars may be easily perceived.

NILACHAL
SAMACHAR,
Feb. 19th, 1909.

87. The *Nilachal Samachar* [Puri] of the 19th February states that while three women were crossing the Berupa river on foot at the Jagatsingpur ghat, in the Cuttack district, one of them lost her balance, and falling into the stream was drowned.

NILACHAL
SAMACHAR,
Feb. 19th, 1909.

88. The *Nilachal Samachar* [Puri] of the 19th February states that a tiger is committing depredations at Bhubaneswar in Puri and observes that the local authorities should take steps to bring the man-eater to justice.

GARJATBASINI,
Feb. 20th, 1909.

89. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 20th February states that the mango crop is a total failure in Domepara, in the Cuttack district.

GARJATBASINI,
Feb. 20th, 1909.

90. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 20th February thanks Mr. M. S. Das, C.I.E., for his donation of Rupees one hundred to the Ganjam Patriotic Fund. Other donors to the same fund are also thanked.

GARJATBASINI,
Feb. 20th, 1909.

91. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 20th February states that a wild elephant is destroying crops and committing other mischievous acts in Domepara, in the Cuttack district, and requests the local authorities either to catch or kill it.

GARJATBASINI,
Feb. 20th, 1909.

92. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 20th February states that there was a shower of rain in Domepara in Cuttack.

GARJATBASINI,
Feb. 20th, 1909.

93. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 20th February states that there were a few showers of rain in the interior of the Dhenkanal State.

GARJATBASINI,
Feb. 20th, 1909.

94. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 20th February gives an account of the Darbar which the Chief of that State held at Talcher with the object of granting honorific titles to those of his subjects who had distinguished themselves by their public services to that State, especially in connection with the last year's famine in that State. This generous appreciation of the merit of his worthy subjects by the Chief of Talcher is spoken of in high terms.

95. The *Gargabasin* [Talcher] of the 20th February gives an account of the proceedings of a meeting held by the people of Atgarh with a view to submit a memorial to their Chief, who responded to their call, expressed a desire to be guided by what he considered to be the happiness of his people and promised to rule his subjects without any distinction of race, creed or colour.

GARGABASIN,
Feb. 20th, 1909.

96. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 20th February regrets to learn that the Calcutta University authorities have dis-affiliated several institutions in law in different parts of Bengal without opening their proposed Law College, and that this untoward action on the part of the University has injured the interests of a large number of students, who have been put to the greatest inconvenience.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Feb. 20th, 1909.

97. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 20th February states that the Revision Settlement Proceedings are going on, no doubt, in Orissa with a good object, but there is a want of good care in selecting competent officers to carry on the work. Babu Satis Chandra Banerjee, an Assistant Settlement Officer, who was working at Bhadreswar market in the Salepur thana in the Cuttack district, and who has now pitched his camp at Sukarpara, had to go against his Peshkar and other Amla, who, it is said, had taken bribes and other perquisites to the extent of about Rs. 5,000 from the parties, who had any business in that camp, and had to bring the matter to the notice of the higher authorities. It appeared on enquiry that the Bengali officer did not know Uriya, and the subordinate Amla joined together in making wrong entries, to which they secured his signature by practising deception on him. It is true that the Peshkar and other two Amla were dismissed, but they should have been criminally prosecuted and an example made of them. It is said that in some camps bothers or objection-petitions cannot be submitted without paying bribes, and if any such petition is so submitted, it is generally lost. Thus many have found it necessary to submit their objection-petitions by registered post to the Sadar Settlement Office. The writer hopes that an enquiry will be made and the offenders brought to justice.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Feb. 20th, 1909.

98. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 20th February describes the economic condition of the Uriyas in the following way and brings the same to the personal notice of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, who has made his mark as a liberal and wise statesman by adopting sympathetic measures. It is said that the agriculturists have gathered only a ten-anna crop in Orissa and that what they obtained by selling their crop has been found very insufficient to cover their debts and other obligations. Those who live by purchasing food-stuffs on payment of ready cash find the price of rice and other eatables so high that they cannot satisfy their wants without running into debt. The zamindars want to collect their rents in time, while the Revision Settlement Ameens exact money in various ways. The expression *Khanapuri* has been converted into the odious *Kha-Na*, which means "don't eat," thereby suggesting that the Uriya must satisfy the Revision Settlement Ameen without taking any meal himself. The distress of the poor raiyats is so great that they flock to the Registration Offices in numbers and sell off occupancy rights in despair to appease their overbearing creditors. The educated Uriyas are also in a bad condition. Their only college in Orissa, namely the Renenshaw College, is not in a position to teach all the subjects of study, while the abolition of the law classes has produced great disappointment. There is a regular fight among the Uriyas and the domiciled Bengalis to secure the few law scholarships that have been granted of late. Thus the Uriyas are in great distress.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Feb. 20th, 1909.

99. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 20th February states that the number of registered documents in Jajpur has begun to rise even from the month of January, and that the Sub-Registrar, Babu Birfode Behari De, is coping manfully with this increased work. The executing parties are satisfied with his work.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Feb. 20th, 1909.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Feb. 20th, 1909.

100. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 20th February states that a tiger is killing cattle at Gayalbank in Domepara in the Cuttack district and that people are afraid to walk on the public roads in Domepara.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Feb. 20th, 1909.

101. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 20th February states that the Orissa Association in Cuttack thus defined the term Uriya in one of its meetings. Uriya meaning a native of Orissa, who had settled in that Province before its occupation by the English. It is hoped that this definition will be found sufficient for all political purposes and that it will be adopted by Government in the distribution of its patronage among the natives of Orissa.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMBAD,
Feb. 17th, 1909.

102. The *Uriya and Navasambad* [Balasore] of the 17th February thanks Sir John Hewett, the Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces, for his generosity in rewarding an old Indian woman who attended to His Honour's wounds when His Honour was thrown off his bicycle by an accident.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMBAD,
Feb. 17th, 1909.

103. The *Uriya and Navasambad* [Balasore] of the 17th February is not satisfied with the way in which the newspapers in Orissa are conducted. They are not only small in size but unimportant so far as their influence on the public is concerned. They do not seem to take much interest in the industrial and agricultural development of the country. Their language is not chaste. They are not independent. The educated Uriyas have very little respect for them.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMBAD,
Feb. 17th, 1909.

104. The *Akhuapada* correspondent of the *Uriya and Navasambad* [Balasore] of the 17th February regrets to note that the mango in that part of the Balasore district is a total failure.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMBAD,
Feb. 17th, 1909.

105. The *Uriya and Navasambad* [Balasore] of the 17th February thanks Haji Sheikh Nasiruddin for his liberality in feeding thousands of Muhammadans residing in different parts of Balasore in honour of his son's marriage. He also spent large sums of money in feasting schoolboys and girls, Police and Railway officers, prisoners and hospital patients.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMBAD,
Feb. 17th, 1909.

106. The *Uriya and Navasambad* [Balasore] of the 17th February gives a list of donations made by the Maharaja of Darbhanga in the last ten years towards charitable and other objects, which come up to Rs. 32,59,437, and indirectly suggests that his countrymen should follow his example.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,
Feb. 19th, 1909.

107. The *Sambalpur Hitaisini* [Bamra] of the 19th February supports its contemporary of the *Nilachal Samachar* in the latter's observation that want of light in the premises of the Jagannath Temple in Puri causes great inconvenience to pilgrims in dark nights and requests the manager of that temple to make provision for light without any more delay.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,
Feb. 19th, 1909.

108. The *Sambalpur Hitaisini* [Bamra] of the 19th February states that the Raja of Parikud possesses uncommon power of curing certain diseases by chanting *mantras*.

SAMBAD VARIKA,
Feb. 26th, 1909.

109. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 25th February opposes the proposal of the Jajpur Municipality in Cuttack to amalgamate the duties of the tax daroga with those of the Municipal Sub-overseer on the ground that the system was tried in Balasore and was found unsuccessful.

NILACHAL
SAMACHAR,
Feb. 26th, 1909.

110. The *Nilachal Samachar* [Puri] of the 26th February thanks Babu Atal Behari Maitra, the Officiating Magistrate of Puri, who took great pains to give a grand reception to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal on His Honour's visit to that town. He acted in such an admirable manner as to give satisfaction to everybody concerned. In short, the Lieutenant-Governor's visit to the Puri town was successful in every way.

111. The *Nilachal Samachar* [Puri] of the 26th February thanks the Inspector-General of Police for his kind and just dealing with Babu Pyari Lal Niogi, the Inspector of Police, Puri, who though suspended on certain alleged charges, was afterwards reinstated with full confidence. It is said that Babu Pyari Lal Niogi is a model Police officer and that his transfer to Jessore is regretted by all.

NYLACHAL
SAMACHAR,
Feb. 26th, 1909.

112. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 27th February regrets to state that the price of sugar in that State is very high and that this is due to a deficient sugar crop there.

GARJATBASINI,
Feb. 27th, 1909.

113. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 27th February states that the Chief of that state has caused a tiger to be killed that was the terror of many villages.

GARJATBASINI,
Feb. 27th, 1909.

114. Referring to the answer, which the son of Mr. Krishna Kumar Mitra has given, refusing the maintenance allowance of Rs. 200 per month, offered by Government to his family, the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 27th February observes that it is wrong on the part of Government to deport gentlemen of proved merit without bringing them under regular trial and that it is much more so when the ascendancy of a liberal ministry is taken into consideration.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Feb. 27th, 1909.

115. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 27th February supports the high encomiums, which His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal passed on the Maharajadhiraj of Burdwan on the occasion of a dinner which the Maharajadhiraj gave to His Honour during His Honour's last visit to Burdwan.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Feb. 27th, 1909.

116. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 27th February, in giving an account of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor's visit to Cuttack, seemingly approves of the observations which His Honour made in connection with the mendicant tone of most of the addresses presented to His Honour and thanks Mr. Levinge, the Commissioner, and Mr. Das for the garden parties that they held in their respective houses to which the gentry and nobility were invited to meet His Honour. According to the writer, the Lieutenant-Governor's visit to Cuttack was successful in every way.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Feb. 27th, 1909.

117. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 27th February gives an account of the measures that have been adopted in Baroda to further the agricultural and industrial advancement of that State and hopes that the zamindars and Chiefs in other parts of India will lose no time in following the example of the Chief of Baroda.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Feb. 27th, 1909.

118. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 27th February states that there are 37 Uriya students studying Sanskrit in Benares and that they have no boarding house. Benares is known as an important seat of Sanskrit learning and many students of different parts of India are seen to frequent that city in quest of knowledge. An association has been formed there with the object of collecting funds to provide lodgings for the Uriya students, as the students of other Indian races have their respective boardings there. The writer therefore requests the Raja Bahadur of Athgarh and other Uriya Chiefs and Zamindars, who appreciate the merit of Sanskrit learning, to do something in the matter.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Feb. 27th, 1909.

RAJENDRA CHANDRA SASTRI,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 10th April, 1909.

REPORT (PART II)
ON
NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL
FOR THE
Week ending Saturday, 10th April 1909.

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II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

220. Commenting on Sir Harvey Adamson's observation regarding the absence of civic spirit which in other countries induces people to co-operate with the Police in bringing offenders to justice, the *Hindoo Patriot* says it is not unusual in this country for people to avoid the police, even when a man is himself the sufferer. In the mufassal villagers are averse to bring to the notice of the Police even such an incident as a burglary committed in their own houses, because they fear that in addition to the loss already suffered, they would have to be subjected to considerable hardship and trouble by being compelled to dance attendance at the thana. Considering the number of innocent people that have suffered during the last few months, it is not strange that civic spirit should be at a discount in the country.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
31st Mar. 1909.

221. According to the *Bengalee* the collapse of the Naria dacoity case furnishes a sad commentary upon Police administration in the new Province. From the very outset the Faridpur public expressed what now appears to have been well-grounded suspicion against the trend of the Police investigation, and it is hoped His Excellency the Viceroy will take suitable steps for the adequate protection of the life, liberty and property of those whose lot has been cast with the Gharoos and whose fate is decided by inspirations coming from the heights of the Assam hills.

BENGALIE,
2nd April 1909.

222. While admitting that the conviction of Khalil, the accused in this case, has gone a long way to re-assure the public mind, the *Indian Empire* enquires what steps are being taken for the punishment of those who put him up to all the trickery. Evidence has been adduced in Khalil's trial to show how the Police paid him liberally to obtain the correspondence of all the Hindu gentlemen who were sought to be victimized in connection with the alleged conspiracy. Sir John Hewett consequently owes it to himself to clear up the last shreds of mystery and punish adequately those who felt no compunction in seeking to wreck His Honour's reputation by manufacturing so serious an affair as a widespread Hindu conspiracy within his jurisdiction.

INDIAN EMPIRE,
6th April 1909.

223. Referring to the circumstances connected with the re-arrest of Pandit Mokhoda Charan Samadhaye, who was acquitted by the High Court Special Tribunal in the Bighati dacoity case, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* enquires why trickery was resorted to by the Police—why the Pundit was given to understand that he would get back his things if he were to present himself at the High Court, where he was again told that he must go to Howrah for them? And then as he stepped out of his Solicitor's office, he was arrested. The Police is omnipotent, and the Pundit might have been arrested in his own house or anywhere else, in a straightforward and businesslike manner. Is it to be understood that straightforward dealing has become so uncommon to the Police that trickery has become their second nature? Is it hopeless to expect the Police to learn that the straightest course is the fairest, the best and the least unpopular? Is there no one to teach them this lesson?

AMRITA BASAR
PATRIKA,
6th April 1909.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

224. The *Bengalee* states that the verdict of the Special Tribunal in the Bighati dacoity case has met with public approval. From the very outset it was felt that the constitution of the Bench was a guarantee that the accused would have a fair and impartial trial and that at the end justice would be done. The journal expresses its thorough detestation of the crime committed by these young men and its profound disappointment that persons holding responsible positions in society should allow themselves to be associated with wicked and unlawful acts of this kind.

BENGALIE
31st Mar. 1909.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
1st April 1909.

225. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* states that although the judgment of the Special Tribunal in the Bighati dacoity case has given general satisfaction, it is a self-evident fact that, in spite of the factor of *personnel* being in its favour, it cannot command the confidence that a normally constituted court usually does. To-day the Tribunal is manned in a manner unexceptionable, but to-morrow it may be all different. The humane element, the chief if not the only basis of confidence at this moment, is ever variable. Then, it cannot be gainsaid that in its very nature the Special Tribunal puts beyond the reach of the accused many common facilities and advantages which have hitherto been considered as the inalienable privileges of the defence and the absence of which acts as a handicap.

The Bighati case and the Special Tribunal.

(c)—Jails.

TELEGRAPH,
3rd April 1909.

226. The *Telegraph* draws the attention of the authorities to the revelations made by Babu Durga Mohun Sen, regarding the unnatural offences daily committed within the jail precincts without apparently the least check or hindrance. If one-tenth of what Babu Durga Mohun says be true, then it is clearly a very serious matter and it is hoped the authorities will institute a sifting enquiry and take necessary steps to prevent a continuance of this abominable practice.

The Dacca Jail.

(h)—General.

BENGALIN,
31st Mar. 1909.

227. The *Bengalee* hopes the post of Advocate-General vacated by Mr. Sinha, will be conferred on a member of the local Bar. The Calcutta Bar is strong in legal talent and knowledge, and in these respects would compare favourably with the Bar of any other Province, and, indeed of the United Kingdom. The appointment is the blue ribbon of the Calcutta Bar and it ought to be conferred upon a member of that Bar, unless it be that no one is fit for it—an assumption which is utterly baseless and which the public decline to accept.

The Advocate-Generalship.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
31st Mar. 1909.

228. In reviewing the Imperial Budget debate the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* states that the shears of retrenchment should be applied to such large spending departments as are unproductive in character. Taking the Police Department, for instance, it is seen that while 84 lakhs are to be spent next year on the Police in Bengal alone, only fifty lakhs have been sanctioned for sanitation in the whole of India. With every deference to the opinion of such high authorities as Sir Edward Baker and Sir Harvey Adamson, the journal says that the people, who naturally know more of the police than they, are honestly of opinion that Government cannot confer a greater blessing on the country than by reducing the police to one-half or even one-fourth its present strength.

A birds-eye view of the Imperial Budget Debate.

HINDOO PATRIOT
1st April 1909.

229. The *Hindoo Patriot* regards it as significant that the appointment of Mr. S. P. Sinha as the Legal Member has the universal approval of both the official and non-official members of the Imperial Legislative Council. There are a class of people who are inclined to question the benefit that may accrue from the appointment, as Mr. Sinha will always be in the minority in the Council.

The new Legal Member.

In their opinion, the appointment will serve the bureaucracy with the pretext that all administrative measures have the approval of the representative of the people. They forget that Mr. Sinha has not been appointed as a representative of the people, but merely as an Indian who possesses in a pre-eminent measure the qualifications requisite for the post. So Mr. Sinha to all intents and purposes will be an official, and it may be a member of the bureaucracy, too. But as the door of this charmed circle has hitherto remained closed to an Indian even of unexceptional merit, it is considered a distinct gain to the country and a vindication of the late Queen's Proclamation that it has at last been opened. This appointment is considered as marking a new era in the country's administration, and it is hoped will pave the way for qualified Indians of all creed and colour to enter into the sanctum of the bureaucracy and thus impart a new tone to its Councils.

230. The *Bengalee* approves of Sir Edward Baker's warning to the members of his Council to the effect that rules of relevancy will have to be strictly observed with the wider powers which the members will enjoy when the Councils are reconstituted, there will be less need for that amplitude of discussion which is now the chief feature of the Budget debate; and there is no doubt that members will not unnecessarily waste their own time and that of the Council. All the same the journal thinks it will be difficult on the occasion of the Budget debate to avoid a general discussion about the administration of the Province. Sir Edward Baker has almost unique experience of the work of the Legislative Councils, and the journal is confident that no rules will be made which will be felt as a hardship by those who are really anxious to serve the country and the Government.

BENGALUR,
1st April 1909.

231. In the course of a critical analysis of the financial situation of both Bengals, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* says that Lord Curzon in his final despatch on the Partition question gave hopes of inestimable benefits which the people of both Provinces would derive from the change. The people could have reconciled themselves to the "settled fact" if a hundredth part of the promised benefits of the ex-Viceroy had fallen to their lot; but it is undisputable that the Partition instead of being a blessing has proved a veritable millstone round the neck of both Bengals. The journal suggests that the heavy expenditure incurred for the maintenance of the new Province might be saved and spent for the benefit of the people by uniting the two Provinces. As for the allegation that united Bengal was too heavy for one Lieutenant-Governor it is absolutely based on fiction. For, at least fourteen Lieutenant-Governors have governed it for half a century without ever complaining of its heaviness and breaking down in health. There is no doubt that Sir Edward Baker would gladly undertake to rule two Bengals, were he given a strong Executive Council to help him.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
1st April 1909.

232. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—
Babu Ashutosh Biswas' son. "The nomination of Babu Kshitish Chandra Biswas, M.A., the son of the late lamented Babu Ashutosh Biswas, as a probationer in the Finance Department, is an act noticeable for its appropriateness. Its Oriental gracefulness will specially appeal to the people. It has been the custom of kings in India from time immemorial, and is still observed in Indian principalities, to treat the sons of a trusted servant dying in harness as wards of the Raja. And this kind of tangible recognition of the worth and services of a deceased servant will strike a responsive chord in every Indian breast."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
1st April 1909.

233. The *Bengalee* writes:—
A graceful act. "The Government of India are to be congratulated on the very practical manner in which they have recognised the services of the late Public Prosecutor at Alipore. They have appointed his son, Babu Kshitish Chandra Biswas, M.A., as a probationer in the Finance Department. This is a graceful act which the public will not fail to appreciate. The credit of it, we may say, is all due to Sir Edward Baker whose views, we are glad to find, were cordially endorsed by His Excellency the Viceroy."

BENGALUR,
2nd April 1909.

234. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* trusts the powerful appeal of Sir Edward Baker for funds to enable His Honour to introduce reforms in this Province and remove the sufferings of its people in various directions, will produce the desired effect upon the Supreme Government. His utterances reveal the new ruler of Bengal in a light which will infuse hope and comfort into the drooping hearts of the people of Bengal. They show that His Honour is anxious to serve the people entrusted to his care by Providence according to his light, but he keenly feels that he cannot do anything for want of money. What grieves him most is to find that he has to reject, sometimes perhaps curtly, even the most reasonable prayers of the people to relieve their distress. It is an irony of fate that the people should be provided with a ruler possessing a fine heart but without the means at his disposal to give effect to his heart's wishes. Sir Edward has done a service to the Empire by reminding the

AMRITA BAZAR
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2nd April 1909.

Government of India that the situation is becoming impossible and that, unless improved, it is bound to engender a feeling of apathy and discontent among the people. What a pity that Sir Edward Baker was not put in charge of Bengal five years ago; for, its coffers were then full and it would have given him an opportunity to prove that he was not a mere lip-sympathiser of Bengal, his "first love."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
3rd April 1909.

235. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* hopes Sir Edward Baker has kept his mind

Sir Edward Baker and manu-
script eloquence.

open in regard to the question of "reading speeches" in his Council. It is quite at one with him that "manuscript eloquence" is getting intoler-

able; but, it should also be remembered that writing makes an exact man. If manuscript eloquence tires the patience of the hearer, *extempore* eloquence sometimes leads a man to talk irrelevance and nonsense. It is mainly for two reasons that "the written debate" runs to such a portentous length. First, it is only on the budget day that the members of Councils have the opportunity of criticising the accumulated measures of the whole year. If there were, say, a fortnightly sitting of the Council throughout the legislative session, then members could very well confine themselves to relevant questions of finance. Secondly, many members have not the gift of making *extempore* speeches, though they are quite fit and able to help Government with sound and practical advice. It will be a great hardship on them if they are asked to express their thoughts without the help of notes. Indeed, it is feared several Rajas, Maharajas, Nawabs will have to bid good-bye to the Councils should *extempore* speaking be insisted on. The journal thinks the practice of reading speeches may be continued on one condition, namely, that the reader shall not take more than, say, 10 minutes. If some such rule is not framed, the Councils will be filled with only those who possess what is called "the gift of the gab;" who know very little of the country but who can talk for hours together if they are once on their legs.

BENGALUR,
6th April 1909.

236. The *Bengalee* states that the Financial Statement of the Bengal Government discloses a far graver state of affairs than appears on the surface. The alarming growth

Provincial Finance.

of expenditure may be partly due to the famine conditions prevailing in the country for the last two years, necessitating heavy expenditure on relief operations and on grain compensation allowances. But even deducting the heavy charges for exceptional items, a large margin of the excess expenditure remains to be accounted for. The revenue statistics of the Province reveal a state of affairs not very far removed from the verge of bankruptcy, inasmuch as it had to draw heavily, for its daily administration, on the accumulated balance, until it has been completely exhausted. Strangely enough, the beginning of this grave and embarrassing situation coincided with the advent of Sir Andrew Fraser, as well as with the revision of Provincial settlement, after the Province was cut into two by Lord Curzon. It is difficult to say whether Sir Andrew Fraser's extravagant policy or the Provincial settlement which he recommended is responsible for the present financial straits. All that can confidently be asserted is that there must be something radically wrong in the financial administration of Bengal, which should be overhauled at the earliest possible opportunity. Sir Andrew Fraser, by his thoughtless schemes of expenditure, deprived the Province of its strength and sinew, and bequeathed it to his successor in an utterly resourceless state, which completely handicaps him in carrying out the various necessary reforms, for want of funds. The resources of Sir Edward Baker will, it is feared, be severely taxed before His Honour is able to launch out on any progressive or beneficial policy, and the journal sincerely sympathises with His Honour in his unfortunate position.

BEHAR HERALD,
3rd April 1908.

237. The *Behar Herald* states that to a people who have no control over their own taxation and its expenditure, nor any voice in the shaping of these things, and

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who are accustomed to see year after year "a suffering country" and an overflowing treasury, the annual Budget is merely a collection of uninteresting figures on paper. When they see that prosperity budgets do not keep them from hunger and slow starvation, it is only natural that they should hardly take any serious notice when there is a deficit in the national balance sheet. A continuous piling up of tax on tax and a ceaseless

adding to the burdens of an already impoverished people, suffering without a murmur in spite of extraordinary heavy annual surpluses as the Indian financial statements have shown up till now, is a thing possible in India alone. The journal is, however, glad to note that the deficit is not to be met by the imposition of any fresh taxes, but by a policy of retrenchment and economical spending of money.

235. Commenting on His Excellency the Viceroy's reply to the address of welcome presented to him by the members of the *Hindu Sabha* of Lahore, the *Bengalee* writes:—

"His Excellency the Viceroy administered what must be regarded as a mild rebuff to the *Sabha*, on the ground that the moment was inopportune, that an address of welcome should be free from contentious matter, that the *Sabha* did not reflect the Hindu feeling on the question of class representation, and that finally its arguments were unsound. With one small exception we must say that our sympathies are entirely on the side of the *Sabha*. Here was the representative of the Sovereign in their midst. The *Sabha* felt a great grievance in a matter of vital interest to the nation. Were they not to lay their grievance before His Excellency, unbosom themselves and hear from him words of consolation, if not of hope and satisfaction? The *Sabha* would have failed in their duty if they had not done so. And there was precedent in support of such a proceeding. How often public bodies on this side of India have referred to the most prominent public grievances in their addresses of welcome to the Viceroy and the head of the Province? And no exception has ever been taken to such a proceeding."

239. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is of opinion that His Honour Sir Edward Baker's utterances regarding the restrictions sought to be imposed on the debate and the formation of the Executive Councils will give general satisfaction. What Sir Edward Baker holds is that if, on the day of the Budget Debate in the future enlarged Councils, the whole affairs of the Province are discussed at the same length as now, then not only will the proceedings be interminably prolonged, but various irrelevant matters may be introduced to give a grotesque character to the debate. The journal approves of His Honour's suggestion to put a stop to this state of things by increasing the number of the sittings of the Legislative Council and thus enable the members to bring forward and discuss various public matters at these meetings reserving the budget day solely for a debate on the budget.

240. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* compares the position of those who are supporting the deportation of British subjects untried and uncharged, to that of the snake which has fastened its fangs upon a mole, mistaking it for a mouse. It can neither swallow its victim nor throw it up, while the unsavoury smell the mole emits stinks in the delicate nostrils of the serpent. Rarely has Government been placed in a more awkward position than it finds itself in just now, by deporting nine gentlemen of Bengal, without bringing any charge against them or giving them any opportunity of defending themselves, and the most lamentable feature of the transaction is that even highly intelligent and high-minded Englishmen, who are incapable of committing a senseless act, have been drawn into the vortex of the controversy which the deportation question has given rise to, and made to assume an attitude which is quite the reverse of what one should expect from them.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

241. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—

"These frequent famines in India indicate an utter exhaustion of the material resources of its people; while the manner in which England is seeking to increase her navy and army shows that she has more money than she can spend. A famine is impossible in Great Britain, because the British are a wealthy people. There a drought, or even a succession of droughts, cannot bring about anything like the famines so common in India. For the people there have money enough to attract food-grains to their shores from all

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parts of the world. Similarly, if the "well-fed" Westerners, to quote the Viceroy's word, are free from the maladies which are so cruelly decimating India, it is because, unlike the starving Indians, they can easily expel from their system the poison which causes these diseases on account of their well-nourished condition. We are grateful for the many blessings England has conferred upon India. It has brought peace in the land; it has made life and property secure; it has created railways and telegraphs which did not exist before; it has established Universities the products whereof would form half a dozen regiments; etc., etc. But, it is a stubborn fact at the same time, that the people are getting poorer and poorer: one cannot but come to this conclusion from these frequent famines and their concomitants. Surely, it is not a healthy situation that the failure of a single crop should throw the whole nation into a state of consternation. This shows, to say the least, that the people here have to live a hand to mouth life, as savage nations, ignorant of the arts of industry and agriculture, do. A famine after a desolating war, may be excusable, and the famine after the Sepoy War was one which was perhaps inevitable. But all the subsequent famines have been attributed to one cause, the failure of the monsoon. This proves incontestably that India is in a terribly bad way. The Government is very generous when a famine actually knocks at the door. Although it cannot save "every man, every woman and every child" from death by starvation, yet it does its very best. It, however, goes without saying that prevention would be better than cure. If the huge amount of money, that has been expended for fighting this monster could have been applied to guard against its reappearance it might have perhaps disappeared from the country for good. What a pity, by the way, that the Famine Insurance Fund was not utilized in the way recommended by the first Famine Commission! It is, then, to the interest of both the rulers and the ruled that these famines and their attendant evils should be stopped once for all. Is that impossible? As we said, England or any other country under British rule has to face no chronic famines like those in India. It is not drought or over-population to which these calamities in India are wholly due. The real cause is that she is getting so poor that she cannot resist the least shock of distress. No one has held the office of the Indian Secretary of State for a longer period than Lord George Hamilton. And he had the candour to admit that India suffered from money, and not grain, famine. This means that if people had sufficient money they would not be so liable to famine. It then comes to this, that the people need a sufficient margin to tide over times of emergency. The Home charges can be minimised, if not suspended for a time in full. For England can well bear the burden of governing India, she having a plethora of money. The industries need to be revived and the material resources of India generally developed to stop the present exhaustion."

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

BENGALUR,
4th April 1909.

242. *Apropos* of the Committee appointed to assist Professor Thomas Arnold as adviser to Indian students in England, the *Bengalee* observes that if the Committee brings sympathy, tact and wisdom to bear on its work it may do some good. But the real remedy for the state of things which the organizers of the movement of which the Committee is the outcome, are so anxious to cure, lies in a policy of conciliation and sympathy to be followed in India. Let the uneasiness and excitement of the general community be appeased and the excitement among the students will naturally cease. They form a part of the general community although perhaps more excitable, and when the temper of the general community is calmed down through a process of reconciliation, the students, too, will be as free from excitement as before.

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL
BRANCH,
41, PARK STREET,
The 10th April 1909.

G. C. DENHAM,
Spl. Asst. to the Deputy Insp.-Genl.
of Police, Bengal.